Daily Report

Latin America

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OAS Strengthens Embargo Against Haiti

PA0910021191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0111 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Washington, 8 Oct (EFE)—After hours of intense negotiations, the OAS decided on 8 October to strengthen the trade and financial embargo against Haiti to promote the return to power of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

The document establishes that "humanitarian reasons" will be the only basis for an exception to this embargo, and it specifies that all humanitarian aid must be channeled through international organizations or nongovernmental agencies.

The resolution, which was drafted in private meetings behind closed doors on 8 October, was approved unanimously by the 34 OAS member countries during a private session.

The document maintains in force all the measures against Haiti's de facto government which were adopted one week ago. Accepting Aristide's request, the OAS decided to create a civilian mission (OEA-DEMOC) to support and strengthen constitutional democracy in Haiti.

According to the resolution, this mission "must go to Haiti "to contribute toward strengthening democratic institutions and to ensure full respect for the Constitution and the human rights of all Haitians." [quotation marks as received]

Its goals include "supporting the administration of justice and the appropriate functioning of all institutions that make possible the attainment of these objectives."

OAS Secretary General Joao Clemente Baena Soares will be in charge of organizing the OEA-DEMOC. It will be financed through a special fund. Contributions will be requested from member states, observer countries, and the international community.

The document vigorously condemns the use of violence and military coercion, as well as the decision to illegally replace Aristide, the constitutional president. It stated that it will not recognize any government that is the result of an electoral process that emerges from this "illegal situation."

The OAS foreign ministers also asked the secretary general to inform them, through the Permanent Council, of the effectiveness of these measures so that, if necessary, they can adopt "subsequent measures."

Baena Soares was also empowered to maintain open the channels of communications with democratically established institutions and other sectors of Haiti to "promote a dialogue to establish the means and guarantees to make possible the reinstatement of Aristide."

The United Nations will be notified of the resolution and its members will be asked to adopt the same measures agreed upon by the OAS members.

Mexico Opposes Military Intervention in Haiti

PA0910043591 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0339 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Report by Victor Aviles]

[Text] Washington, 8 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Mexican Foreign Secretary Fernando Solana Morales today voiced opposition to the militarization of the OAS in the case of the crisis caused by the military coup against Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Solana said that Mexico rejects any initiative to create a multilateral force for intervention.

The Mexican foreign secretary spoke at the OAS headquarters where 16 foreign ministers of the continent met to agree on an economic embargo against Haiti and to create a civilian mission that will travel to Port-au-Prince to seek Aristide's reinstatement.

At the same time, the OAS foreign ministers agreed that they will not recognize the authorities imposed by the coupist officers."In line with the OAS spirit, its mission is to resolve conflicts peacefully and not to apply coercive measures," Solano stated.

The Mexican official stated that the United Nations has the appropriate means to establish that type of force; therefore, a change in the OAS bylaws would be incongruous.

Throughout the meeting, Argentine Foreign Minister Guido di Tella insisted that the bylaws of the OAS must be changed so that it can have a military force for intervention in extraordinary cases. It was learned that the Argentine proposal was supported by Trinidad and Tobago, Canada, and initially by Venezuela, which later rejected it.

Mexico, Brazil, Uruguay, Colombia, Peru, and the Dominican Republic expressed opposition to an interventionist force.

Solana Morales said that no decision has been made yet about whether Mexico will participate in the civilian mission that will be formed to travel to Port-au-Prince.

Nevertheless, a source close to the Mexican Foreign Secretariat said that Mexico will not form part of that mission because it goes against the traditional principles of its foreign policy.

Solana clarified that his country will cooperate financially so that the peace mission can fulfill its objectives in Haiti.

Throughout the session, the Mexican foreign secretary consulted with Bernard Aronson, assistant secretary of state for inter- American affairs, and with the foreign ministers of Brazil, Colombia, Haiti, Venezuela, Uruguay, and Peru.

Haiti Expelled From San Jose Oil Pact

PA0910015591 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0130 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Washington, 8 Oct (NOTIMEX)—Mexico and Venezuela today agreed to expel Haiti from the San Jose Pact, whereby the Caribbean country was receiving oil at preferential rates, said Mexican Foreign Minister Fernando Solana Morales.

The announcement was made within the framework of tonight's meeting of the OAS that stiffened the embargo on Haiti and where it was agreed to send a civilian mission to seek the restoration of democracy in that country.

Cuba

Intervention in Haiti 'Very Serious Precedent'

FL0810144991 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1135 GMT 8 Oct 91

[From the "Hot off the Press" segment of the "Morning Magazine" program with host Daniel Torres—live]

[Excerpt] I wanted to analyze the Haitian situation with you. First, I wanted to comment on a statement made by Marlin Fitzwater, White House spokesman and press secretary. During a meeting with reporters accredited in Washington, D.C., Fitzwater said the United States supported Jean-Bertrand Aristide, constitutional president of Haiti, and that he was going to study the OAS reports and later make remarks. Fitzwater asserted that once this situation is analyzed, the United States will then decide to implement democracy in Haiti.

I believe—I am now going to speculate about this matter—that if today the OAS is going to analyze the possibility of sending international troops to Haiti.... [changes thought] The United Nations and the Security Council finally agreed to discuss the Haitian situation as a special case. I have a report over here that says: The UN General Assembly has just agreed to discuss during its plenary the crisis of democracy and human rights in Haiti. The Haitian Government expressed appreciation for the show of international support against the coupists. The United Nations is going to discuss the Haitian situation on a priority basis.

The OAS was scheduled to meet in Washington today to study what it considers unacceptable. The report says: There is a growing trend in the OAS favoring a military solution. It continues saying: The OAS considered unacceptable the conditions demanded by the coupists and the decision of imposing a government led by someone other than Aristide.

On the other hand, Marlin Fitzwater says that the United States is going to implement democracy after the situation is studied. So far, the United States has really been cautious. It is a judge and playing a role in what is happening in Haiti.

I wanted to analyze with you these three points of the same event. I believe one can read between the lines that there is the possibility of a multinational force being sent to Haiti to restore democracy there and have President Aristide prevail.

I wanted to make clear that I am in complete disagreement with the coup d'etat in Haiti. These are different times. The world has changed. This is not the Latin America of even five years ago. This is not the Caribbean of even five years ago. The world simply does not accept this type of event and this type of social and political episode.

This is one matter. The other matter would be to accept sending a multinational force to a sovereign country. It would be a very serious precedent. If I had to say something concerning this, I would say: Attention, Cuba. If an international force is created to intervene in Haiti, this would be a pretext, simply a lever placed there as a precedent to what could be repeated later. [passage omitted]

Government Charges U.S. With 'Economic Genocide'

PA0910033291 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 1157 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Havana, 8 Oct (DPA)—Cuba today accused the U.S. Government of trying to carry out "economic genocide" with the trade and economic embargo that it has been maintaining against the island for over three decades.

"The United States is trying to strangle Cuba and force it to surrender out of hunger," Cuban Vice Foreign Minister Ramon Sanchez Parodi said with regard to recent measures adopted by Washington to restrict the amount of money that Cuban exiles can send to their relatives or the amount brought in by Cubans who return to the island.

In statements to DPA, the official said that Cuba has endured 31 years of this blockade and that "it can continue to endure it indefinitely," despite the difficulties that it is confronting with regard to supplies coming from the Soviet Union.

He admitted that the changes that have taken place in the Soviet Union and in the countries of East Europe—the former political allies and trading partners of Cuba—in addition to the U.S. embargo, have worsened Cuba's internal economic problems.

However, Cuba is "successfully" confronting these problems through a "reorganization of its international economic and commercial relations" as it did early in the 1960's when it had to switch completely to socialist markets and sources of supplies.

In this sense, he said, "we are now in better condition than 30 years ago, since we have better economic and technological bases. Our problems now are the problems of transition," that is, while Cuba finds alternate sources and markets, he added.

After pointing out that relations with Latin America and some European countries are "the best we have ever had," he rejected the idea that Cuba is isolated internationally and he did not assign much importance to foreign "advice" favoring democratization of the national political life.

"There is not a more ample, open, and less stratified society than Cuban society," he said, while pointing out

that the revolution is undergoing a "process of institutionalization" to make its organs "more efficient and perfect so that they will allow the full participation of society."

Concerning the Soviet Union, he said that there is still no date or site for the meeting that will formally initiate negotiations for the withdrawal of the 2,800 soldiers stationed on the island. He reiterated the Cuban stand of linking the departure of this contingent with the dismantling of the U.S. base at Guantanamo.

UNGA Includes Economic Blockade on Agenda

PA0910043891 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Interview with Olga Miranda, director of the Legal Affairs Directorate of the Cuban Foreign Ministry, by Arnaldo Hernandez Romeu; date and place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Hernandez] The United Nations recently agreed to include on its agenda of discussions the case of the economic, commercial, and financial blockade that the United States has imposed on Cuba for over 30 years. Although this approval undoubtedly represents a success for Cuban diplomacy, it does not actually mean the end of the blockade.

Just last week, President George Bush reiterated that he will not in any way change his policy toward Cuba. This leads one to believe that U.S. diplomacy might use delaying tactics to prevent discussion of the topic at the United Nations. We therefore interviewed Dr. Olga Miranda, director of the legal affairs directorate of the Cuban Foreign Ministry.

[Miranda] The UN agenda is very full. Not all topics can be discussed every year. However, we will have to wait for the work of the General Assembly to progress a bit. Right now, we are at the stage of basic and general speeches. Later, we will move into the work of the commissions and the discussions on the agenda. At that time, we will know for certain when the topic will be discussed.

[Hernandez] What is Cuba expecting of the international community? In other words, are we officially asking for support for the Cuban stand?

[Miranda] It is true that the topic presented by Cuba has very important elements for international discussion. We have already seen that there is direct support for Cuba's right to bring up the issue for discussion, and as a result, the end of the obsolete criminal blockade. The basis for the blockade against Cuba refers to (?concessions) that are no longer applicable around the world. They are apparently only applicable for Cuba. Many individuals have already noted this.

From the point of view of international law, including the issue of the economic blockade against Cuba emphasizes that the blockade has its own name. That is what most bothers the United States, that it is the blockade of the United States against Cuba.

Also, the way in which the blockade was imposed can be amply discussed at the United Nations. In other words, there might be a debate that could bring up new elements of international law for discussion. International law is for the sake of peace, security, coexistence, and respect for the freedom of states. All aspects of the blockade will be discussed within that framework.

[Hernandez] We thank Dr. Olga Miranda, director of the legal affairs directorate of the Foreign Ministry, for her statements to Radio Havana Cuba.

State Television To Cover Fourth Party Congress

PA0810183191 Paris AFP in Spanish 1651 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Report by Alfredo Munoz-Unsain]

[Text] Havana, 8 Oct (AFP)—The Fourth Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC], which is scheduled to start on 10 October, will be held behind closed doors—but it will have an electronic window: The state-owned television will broadcast, "as much as possible," the sessions, a high-ranking party source has told AFP.

The televised coverage will be on a "deferred" basis, rather than live, but some parts of the congress sessions will be televised live, the source added.

The two channels of state-owned television cover the whole island and are currently the most influential broadcasting media, given that the publication of GRANMA, which is the organ of the PCC and the only one with national circulation, has been reduced because of the paper shortage.

Last week, the television announced a cutback in its programming because of the lack of imported materials and the need to save energy.

The cutback in television programs is the latest of many shortages which afflict the Cuban population and which have been increasing since late 1990 and the reduction of Soviet supplies to the island.

Meat, dairy products, grains, and cereals—critical goods for subsistence—are now shipped from the USSR in amounts that are dramatically insufficient for an economy, even for one that has become accustomed to squandering for 30 years.

The crisis in consumer goods is also due to the decrease in the shipments of Soviet raw materials, so Cuban industry has almost stopped producing articles that are essential for personal hygiene and household cleanliness—soap, detergents, brooms, textiles, and underwear.

In addition, the "food plan" launched m aths ago by the Castro regime—based on the "voluntary" agricultural work carried out by office workers and other urban workers—has failed to achieve visible results on the store shelves.

Peasants are a species on the verge of extinction and the few peasants who work—either in cooperatives controlled by the state or in 65 hectare plots where the state supervises their crops, harvests, and sales—fail to produce enough agricultural products to lessen the rationing.

The outlook for cattle producers is equally gloomy because the state projects for the large-scale production of cattle, goats, and sheep within the "food plan" have also failed to yield results.

The cattle stock has decreased to 4 million head, according to unconfirmed reports which are supported by the shortage of beef in that consumer sanctum—the state-owned market for diplomats and special foreign clients.

Certain products, like rum, are freely sold but rationing has become almost pervasive, which does not guarantee that the consumer may always purchase the merchandise that his ration card theoretically gives him the right to purchase.

The shortage has skyrocketed prices on the black market, where a consumer pays 10 times as much for a package of cigarettes, a chicken, or a package of rice—when someone offers them.

The ruling PCC, the only legal party on the island, will undoubtedly dedicate its Fourth Congress to seek solutions to the economic crisis, within the official formula of "socialism or death"—which many say is tantamount to squaring the circle.

The congress will be held in Santiago de Cuba, approximately 900 km east of Havana. According to recent travelers, the shortage of food and other articles and the people's displeasure in that city are similar to those in Havana.

Approximately 1,800 congress delegates began to leave by bus or train on 7 October for that provincial capital, the site of the attack on the Moncada Barracks in 1953, which marked the birth of the Castroite revolution.

They already know, due to pamphlets that they received on an exclusive basis a month ago, about the four draft resolutions that they must approve. The other activists, and the people in general, know nothing about them.

The official media simply reports that the texts "deal with the country's economic development, the party's program, the improvement of the organization, the functions of the National Assembly of the People's Government, and the party statutes."

It seems that another item—which is nothing new in Cuba, by the way—must be added to the list of shortages: The shortage of information.

Report on Expectations for Congress; Delegates

PA0810164091 Havana Radio Havana Cuba in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Report by Barbara Betancourt]

[Text] Only three days remain before the beginning of the most important meeting of Cuban communists in Santiago de Cuba and expectations are high. Undoubtably, people—including, of course, people who are not party members—expect a great deal from this meeting. Everybody is aware that the party delegates have serious political responsibilities. They will meet when the socialist world has disintegrated, when there is a general crisis in the USSR, when the rightist forces in the world have increased, and when the U.S. economic blockade against Cuba has tightened. The 1,800 delegates to the Cuban Communist Party [PCC] Congress will have to consider these things when they discuss the four basic documents that will be presented at the congress. The documents refer to the economy and the party's statutes and programs. All the topics aim to move our society's advancements on a more democratic and efficient road, following the socialist principles chosen 30 years ago.

As has already been reported, the delegates will arrive in Santiago de Cuba on the afternoon and early evening of 9 October. Immediately after the people's welcome, they will start the many activities organized for them by their hosts. Perhaps you are interested in the fact that 82 percent of the delegates have an upper-level university education and approximately 17 percent have completed the middle level. The average age of the delegates is 44 and 60 percent of the delegates are not more than 45. The occupation of half the delegates are in fields related to production, services, teaching, and scientific investigation. The remainder come from the ranks of the Revolutionary Armed Forces; the Interior Ministry; and the peasant, political, and student sectors. The delegates to the PCC Congress come from all sectors of society; 1,191 were elected secretly and directly by party members at the provincial assemblies and 600 were selected directly by their companions at their work stations. During the past election process, 505 comrades were chosen as precandidates to the PCC Central Committee and the congress will elect the comrades who are to be members of this important party section. This is the end of the report, my friends. I bid you good-bye and promise to keep in contact.

More Statistics on Delegates

FL0810155391 Havana Tele Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Fifty percent of the delegates who will attend the Fourth Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] Congress in Santiago de Cuba directly represent workers involved in

production, services, education, and scientific research. Of the 1,800 delegates who will attend the party event, 33 percent is composed of men and women who come from the four basic sectors of the country: livestock and agriculture, sugar, construction, and basic industry. Eighteen percent are scientific researchers, professors, teachers, technicians, journalists, and artists. They all work full time in their respective professions, in research, education, or production centers. The average age of the delegates is 44 but more than half of those who will attend the PCC Congress have not yet reached 45.

Military Service Dodgers To Be Fined

FL0910021391 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2351 GMT 8 Oct 91

[From the "Exclusivo" program]

[Text] Fines of 10 to 50 pesos will be assessed those who do not fulfill their obligations to the General Military Service [SMG]. On 13 August the GAZETA OFICIAL of the Republic of Cuba printed Decree 164 on violations regarding the SMG.

According to the decree, those who do not present themselves in accordance with the official summons of the military committee will be fined 10 pesos if they cannot justify their absence. In addition, those who have registered for the SMG and do not report changes of personal information such as address, work place, or school within a period of not more than seven days will be fined 20 pesos as long their intention is not to avoid serving. I repeat, in this case offenders will be fined 20 pesos.

Another paragraph of Decree 164 establishes that when discharged from active military service, reinstatement in the military register must be formalized within 30 days or a 20-peso fine will be imposed. Finally, a 50-peso fine will be given to those who have been officially summoned and do not present themselves for the periods of instruction, military training, and testing of combat readiness.

According to Chapter II of Decree 164, the authorities empowered to impose the corresponding fines will be, in all cases, the chiefs of the military committees of the municipal general staffs. We should point out that Decree Law No. 99 of 25 December 1987, on personal violations, empowers the Council of Ministers to establish what the actions or omissions are that, while not constituting a criminal offense, should be considered violations for failure to fulfill the SMG. This is why, using the powers granted by that law, Decree 164 has been published and took effect on 13 August 1991.

Because of the importance of its contents, we decided to repeat it for the listeners of "Exclusivo." Thank you and good night.

Haiti

President's Inauguration Ceremony Televised

FL0910000591

[Editorial Report] Port-au-Prince RTNH Television in French at 1945 GMT on 8 October begins live coverage of the inaugural ceremony of the new interim president at the Legislative Palace in Port-au-Prince. Parliament is shown in session.

At 2030 GMT, the speaker of the National Assembly sends a delegation to the diplomatic lounge of the National Assembly to usher the president-designate to the swearing-in ceremony. At 2037 GMT, the president-designate arrives and is seated.

At 2040 GMT, Speaker Dejean Belizaire begins a 12-minute address, recalling the circumstances that led to the impeachment of President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. Upon closing Belizaire turns to the president-designate and explains that this ceremony demonstrates that "not everything is yet lost for democracy in Haiti." Describing President Joseph Nerette as "a man of great experience, sagacity, and wisdom," Belizaire urges him to do everything to "lead your people and your nation from the impasse."

At 2052 GMT, Belizaire concludes his address. Text of Belizaire's address is printed below.

At 2053 GMT, Speaker Belizaire asks Deputy Datus Milscent to invite the president-designate forward to take the oath of office.

At 2054 GMT President-designate Joseph Nerette comes forward and takes the oath of office: "I swear before God and before the nation that I will faithfully observe the Constitution and the laws of the Republic; respect and defend the rights of the Haitian people; work toward the greatness of the fatherland; maintain national independence and territorial integrity."

At 2055 GMT Joseph Nerette is presented to the speaker of the National Assembly.

At 2056 Interim President Joseph Nerette begins his inaugural address. The text of address is printed below.

At 2112 the speaker and other members of the Assembly's committee are show greeting the new president.

At 2115 the speaker announces that the ceremony will be rounded off by a reception at the National Palace.

Belizaire Address

FL0910153291 Port-au-Prince RTNH Television in French 2040 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Speech by Dejean Belizaire, president of the Haitian Senate, on the occasion of the inauguration of Provisional President Joseph Nerette at the Legislative Palace in Port-au-Prince—live]

[Text] Honorable President Designate, distinguished members of the National Assembly, commander in chief of the Haitian Armed Forced [FADH], and gentlemen, members of the high staff of the FADH, representatives of political parties, representatives of national institutions, distinguished members of the press:

As everyone here knows, as the whole world learned with much shock and emotion, President Jean-Bertrand Aristide abandoned power on 30 September and flew to Caracas. The Parliament was very effected, and raised the appropriate protests to recall the spirit and letter of the Constitution. Concerned about constitutional legality, the foundation of its existence, the Haitian Parliament tried to find a solution on the basis of Article 148 of the Constitution. Two invitations were accordingly addressed to Prime Minister Rene Preval, asking him to visit the Legislative Palace on Thursday, 3 October, and on Saturday, 5 October. Unfortunately, both invitations were rejected—for security reasons, the prime minister said—although he was able, on 5 October, to honor the invitation of an international organization.

In any case, more than eight days had passed since a power vacuum was created by the executive. State affairs are at a standstill; national life is paralyzed. Every sector of national life has been effected by the consequences of it. All of the sectors, through various means, have encouraged awareness in the deputies and senators of the loss of life, and the need for just and wise decisions to be made for the resumption of political, economic, and social life.

Article 148 of the Constitution, due to the unavailability of Rene Preval to fill the void left by President Aristide, has expired. Under these circumstances, a power vacuum has been created in the executive branch, which must be filled without delay. Fortunately, the members of the Assembly, in their sagacity and wisdom, provided, in Article 149 of the Constitution, a mechanism for resolving the situation. This article stipulates that in the case of a presidential vacancy in the Republic, for whatever reason it may occur, the president of the Court of Cassation of the Republic; or if he is not available, the vice president of this court; or if the latter is unavailable, the oldest judge, and so on in order of seniority, is temporarily entrusted with the Presidency of the Republic by the National Assembly, duly summoned by the prime minister.

The polling exercise for a new president for a five-year term is to be held within 45 and 90 days after the power vacuum has been recorded, in compliance with the Constitution and in conformity with the electoral law. The Constitution does not provide for the unavailability of the prime minister. Facing this governmental and political vacuum, and in a crisis situation which for eight days has endangered the lives and properties of families and institutions, the Parliament, having been mandated by the national electorates to fulfill national sovereignty, has fully assumed its responsibility to find a favorable solution for the country and the Haitian people.

To this effect, the Parliament sought counsel from various national and international institutions represented in Haiti, particularly from among the movements and political parties; the Army High Staff; members of the diplomatic corps; and an OAS mission twice assigned to advise of the resolutions of its 34 member countries.

Therefore, as president of the Senate and president of the National Assembly, I summoned you today to the National Assembly, honorable deputies and senators, to fulfill a constitutional duty particularly important for the future of democracy in Haiti.

We acknowledge the determination of the commander in chief and the members of the FADH Supreme Command, as well as the officers and the rank and file to avoid the political arena. This sets a precedence in the history of this country and we insist that the Army should limit itself to its apolitical nature and its constitutional functions. For this reason, I hereby strongly protest the occupation of Parliament House on Monday, 7 October by the members of the FADH. Democracy is not compatible with the use of force. Fortunately, deputies and senators demonstrated during the past seven months how courageous they are. Promoted by the same courage, they will continue to assume their responsibilities.

Honorable deputies and senators: You have shown wonderful dedication, courage, and self-denial. Despite all the ups and downs in Parliament's life during these past seven months, you have successfully surpassed yourselves casting aside your frustrations and disappointments and doing whatever was humanly possible to obtain the return of President Aristide and to safeguard any democratic gain that could still be safeguarded.

Deputies and senators, justice will be ours and we will leave no stone unturned in order to stop the escalation of unconstitutional acts. Since we are still here, we must make sure of having no stone unturned to reestablish the constitutional order and respect it.

Honorable judge, you are here today to be entrusted as the provisional president of the Republic, in conformity with Article 149 of the Constitution following the premature vacancy of the Presidency by President Aristide. If under this circumstance, the oldest available judge of the Court of Cassation receives the presidential scarf, not everything is lost yet for democracy in Haiti. Respecting the Constitution remains the concern of all sectors of national life. Being a man of law who has become today a head of state through the constitutional mechanism, it is incumbent on you to see to the respect and the enforcement of the Constitution and the restoration of confidence in the Haitian family.

You have lived long enough, you have studied, you have seen and heard a great deal, and you also have understood a great deal. Because of all this, you are a man of

great experience, sagacity, and wisdom. Today, you must use all this vast experience to lead your people and your nation from the impasse. You must be able to surpass yourself and surpass petty squabbles, minor personal grudges which often weaken a man. Be a mature and grownup man, such as Moses in the desert. Take the Constitution, stand up, and march. Lead the nation to greater light. The stupefied nation has been able to acknowledge that the 1987 Constitution is still alive. It is incumbent upon you to do all you can to help it rise again from its severe hardships. Simple and modest man of law: May you remain—while in power—the man you have always been. Avoid power's inebriation. Along with the executive power and the judicial power, the legislative power is here to see to the respect of the mandate entrusted to you. Good luck and thanks to all of you. [applause]

Nerette Inaugural Address

FL0910160291 Port-au-Prince RTNH Television in French 2056 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Speech by Joseph Nerette, provisional president of the Republic of Haiti, during his swearing-in ceremony at the Legislative Palace in Port-au-Prince—live]

[Text] Messrs. Speaker and Deputy Speakers of the National Assembly, distinguished members of the Assembly's executive committee, distinguished Parliamentarians, Mr. Commander in Chief of the Haitian Armed Forces, Messrs. representatives of the clergy, Messrs. representatives of the judiciary, Messrs. representatives of the reformist churches, Messrs. representatives of political parties, representatives of the press, representatives of the private sector, civilian and military authorities, dear Compatriots from Haiti and the Diaspora, [applause] my Haitian brothers and fellow citizens:

Owing to the tragic events that we will always deplore—those which have disrupted and stained the national territorial integrity for several days—the National Assembly, after meeting as required by Article 149 of the Constitution of the Republic and after consulting with the political parties and the various components of political life, have requested me to assume the functions of interim president of the Republic.

A long career as a teacher and a magistrate has not at all prepared me for this special destiny in the cauldron of active politics. But the salvation of the Republic, which is the prime concern of every genuine citizen, and the inspiration from Haiti's patron saint overcame my initial refusal, which was my first reaction to the request from the prestigious delegation of the Haitian Parliament when its members came to inform me of their choice.

Taking into consideration the (?complexity) of the unprecedented institutional crisis that threatens the foundation of the national edifice, and in a spirit of sacrifice, I heeded the call of our beloved fatherland with a firm and unflinching determination to respect and enforce the laws enshrined in the current Constitution and the rules of the democratic game in order to safeguard and strengthen—during this temporary tenure—the institutional equilibrium and the continued existence of democratic institutions.

Dear compatriots, I have never been a politician and have never held a political function, except—and there are always exceptions—as an assistant to the government commissioner. My only ambition will be to serve our dear fatherland, which is confronted with the torments of dissension and misery in its tumultuous march along the path to democracy. The salvation of this country, which is rich in intellectual potential and human resources, depends on a reconciliation among all its children. [applause] Such salvation should never, and will never be pursued by one man, or a small group of people. The country belongs to all its children irrespective of their class and their ideology, whether they are rich or poor. The time has come, fellow compatriots in Haiti and abroad, for us to rally around our two-colored—blue and red—flag in mutual respect and true, mutual love, showing concern for public property, and making a cult of good and justice.

This interim government, formed on the basis of a national consensus, appeals to all political partners to contribute to peace, restraint, open-mindedness, and dialogue. It appeals to the Haitian Armed Forces to protect the civilian population and save lives and property. It appeals to the church and the reformist cults to accomplish their honorable mission of evangelization, literacy, and education. It appeals to the political parties to foster cooperation and to generously contribute to restoring a climate of peace and unity.

It appeals to the entire media world to pursue its fundamental mission of information and education in all objectivity and truth. [applause] The interim government rejects any spirit of revenge, sectarianism, the recourse to necklacing [pere lebrun] [applause], uprooting operations [dechoucage] [applause], so that Haiti will remain a land of love, peace, prosperity, and well-being.

Farmers, workers, members of the clergy and the reformist cults, traders, industrialists, soldiers, professionals, politicians, school children and students, Haitian men and women: This fatherland inherited from our valiant ancestors is yours. The time has come for us all to embrace one another fraternally, to rise above selfish interests, personal rancors, and all sorts of prejudices, to renounce all sorts of dreams likely to cause discord and hatred in society. Haiti is your fatherland. Protect it! Watch over it! Save it! But do not tear it apart! [applause]

In these difficult times of transformation all over the world, it is futile to think that Haiti will depart from the great wave of freedom and democratic aspirations that has characterized this new era for two decades. The interim government assures all friendly nations that it

will guarantee the treaties and accords that the Republic of Haiti has ratified and that are still in force. It also assures them of its sensible cooperation in all activities in the private sector for the benefit of the whole nation and for the prompt revival of national economic activities.

The government of the Republic ardently hopes that all aliens living on our soil will continue to share our humble existence, enjoy our people's flawless hospitality, and work in their respective sectors to enhance the well-being of our starving, bewildered masses, as all our private sector partners must do.

Fellow compatriots of the Diaspora: The interim government, in its desire to promote the democratic future of Haiti, reiterates its message of peace, reconciliation, and love for the salvation of Haiti, which must deserve the respect and esteem of all civilized nations. It therefore calls on all of you to set to work without delay, in strictest discipline and in a spirit of dialogue and consultations.

Peace, as Pope John Paul II states, is not the mere absence of conflicts and wars, but the fruit of an order established in human society by its divine creator. Peace results from justice and therefore implies compliance with laws and requires that each and everyone fulfill one's duties. There is an intrinsic connection between the requirements of justice, truth, and peace.

Fellow compatriots in Haiti and abroad: Haiti should not die; Haiti will not die. With our two-color blue-and-red flag close to my heart, the Bible in one hand and Haiti's Constitution in the other hand, as our sole compass, I pray to the cosmic and supreme forces of the universe to generously give the country and everyone of us their blessings and to assist us in the accomplishment of an eminently weighty and delicate mission. Thank you. [applause]

Key Congressmen Absent

PA0810194291 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1811 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 8 Oct (NOTIMEX)—The Crisis Committee congressmen who invoked Article 149 of the Constitution to appoint a provisional president did not show up at Congress to complete the appointment procedure.

The military in power, through Radio Nacional, early this afternoon continued appealing to deputies and senators of the "Crisis Committee" to go to Congress to swear in Judge Joseph Nerette as "provisional president," thus making Article 149 effective.

A deputy has told NOTIMEX: The legislators who backed the military in their search for a legal solution, endured the pressure of the rifles Monday and "voted with their feet."

The absence of the congressmen who had to be present for the swearing in of the provisional president has crushed the possibility of the coupist military securing a constitutional facade.

Diplomats Boycott Ceremony

PA0910150791 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0846 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 9 Oct (EFE)—The Haitian Government's isolation became obvious during President Joseph Nerette's inauguration ceremony, which was boycotted by the diplomatic corp in Port-au-Prince.

Nerette assumed the Presidency on 8 October, the day after his appointment by the Senate, while troops under coupist General Raoul Cedras surrounded the National Assembly and fired on the building.

Nerette, the Supreme Court's senior judge, fills the void that followed the 30 September military coup against constitutional President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, who is in Venezuela.

On 8 October, the Haitian supreme judge immediately confirmed Cedras as Haiti's military leader. Haiti has a population of 5.5 million and is the poorest country in America.

According to a Western diplomat, Nerette's nervousness during the ceremony shows the weakness of his provisional government.

"Nerette was very tense; on television he seemed nervous, he constantly looked at Cedras. It was incredible," the diplomat said.

The ceremony was attended by 18 of the 27 senators and by 52 of the 83 deputies, in addition to opposition political leaders such as former presidential candidates Marc Bazin, Louis Dejoie, and Hubert De Ronceray, as well as several business leaders.

Also absent from the ceremony, aside from the diplomatic corp, was the Catholic Church, members of Aristide's constitutional government, and the "Lavalas" movement, who led Aristide to power.

The Western diplomat said that the international community led by the OAS must continue to exert pressure against Nerette's government—otherwise it would be tantamount to support a coup d'etat against a democratically elected president.

The OAS, on 8 October, rejected Nerette's appointment and decided to reinforce the trade and economic embargo against Haiti to promote Aristide's return to power.

"The international community cannot validate elections every six months," the Western diplomat said.

He also expressed concern over the behavior of former presidential candidate Marc Bazin, who was defeated by Aristide in Haiti's first democratic elections, which were held in December 1990.

"Bazin (during the ceremony) gave statements as if he were the president," the diplomat said.

The Western diplomat said he would not be surprised if the number of dead since the coup numbered 800.

According to local radio stations, about 250 people lost their lives in a wave of violence unleashed by the military coup.

Judge Nerette, who was assistant prosecutor under the Jean-Claude Duvalier dictatorship, was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1988 during Henry Namphy's military government. Nerette is 67 and has seven children from three marriages.

His next step will be to appoint a provisional prime minister, according to parliamentary sources.

The judge, who was appointed provisional president according to Article 149 of the Constitution, must also call for elections within 90 days.

Aristide, 38, a former Salesian Order priest who swept the elections with the poor people's vote, has been accused by the Armed Forces of violating the Constitution and human rights and of being a "dictator apprentice."

Aristide Calls Nerette Appointment 'New Coup'

PA0910000491 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 2235 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Caracas, 8 Oct (DPA)—In Caracas today deposed Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide described as "a new coup d'etat" the appointment of Supreme Court Justice Francois Joseph Nerette as new Haitian president.

The decision to appoint a provisional president "is a second coup d'etat," Aristide told a small group of journalists after his visit to the United States [as received].

Aristide, who was overthrown on 30 September by a group of officers headed by Armed Forces Commander Raoul Cedras, returned to Caracas today after a brief visit to Jamaica. In Jamaica he met with Prime Minister Michael Manley and representatives of the Caribbean community to obtain support for his return to power.

So far, the international efforts "have been fantastic," he said. "We are trying to bring back the democratic process" in Haiti, the president added. He refused to make any comments about Nerette.

"It makes no sense" to comment about someone who "is worthless," Aristide said before meeting with Venezuelan President Carlos Andres Perez at the Miraflores presidential palace.

Aristide, a former priest and the first Haitian president elected by popular vote, fled to Venezuela on 1 October after the coup d'etat. He later attended a special meeting of OAS foreign ministers in Washington and asked the UN General Assembly to support his return to the island.

"The OAS continues on the same path—imposing measures against the coupists and preventing the continuation of slaughter in Haiti," the president said. "Together we are moving toward the reestablishment of the democratic process."

Meanwhile, the OAS stated in Washington that it will not recognize Nerette as the new Haitian president.

Aristide is scheduled to meet with Perez at the Miraflores presidential palace tonight, but he refused to provide details about the meeting or his immediate plans.

"My stay in Venezuela depends on developments" in Haiti, the president said. He is staying at a well-known hotel in Caracas.

Politician Bazin Will 'Help' New Government

PA0910021791 Paris AFP in Spanish 0119 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Port-au-Prince, 8 Oct (AFP)—Marc Bazin, the centrist leader who ran against Jean-Bertrand Aristide in the presidential elections of December 1990, announced this afternoon that his party is ready to "help" the new provisional government.

His Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti (MIDH) is willing to take that step "to rapidly help improve the living conditions of the people of Haiti," the centrist leader told the press at the conclusion of the installation of the new "provisional president."

Preval Appeals for Resistance To Grow, Spread

FL0910005191 Havana Radio Rebelde Network in Spanish 2356 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Former Haitian Prime Minister Rene Preval, now in exile, called on the Haitian people to continue the general strike and resistance against the coup until constitutional order is restored and Jean-Bertrand Aristide returns to Haitian territory.

Political Parties Urge Filling of Power Vacuum

FL0710161591 Port-au-Prince Radio Nationale in French 1040 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Memorandum issued by Haitian political parties to the National Assembly in Port-au-Prince on 6 October]

[Text] Memorandum from the political parties to National Assembly intended to be used as a basis of reflection for a solution to the crisis that has been shaking the country for eight days. The following considerations have been reviewed:

At the request of the speaker of the National Assembly, the political parties that were present were invited to meet at once to make proposals to him summarizing the different leanings and consequently to set out a common proposal and resolution for a solution to the crisis that has been shaking the country for eight days. The state security is the supreme law. Under such circumstances the state's fundamental law, the Constitution, must prevail. The Haitian nation has been living in a state of utter confusion. The Parliament has tried as best it can to apply Article 148 of the Constitution. The prime minister was unable or unwilling to answer the many calls by the Senate Crisis Committee under justified or unjustified pretexts. Therefore, a power vacuum has effectively been noted and it is in the best interest of the nation to fill it as soon as possible.

In view of the above, the political parties agree that it is urgent to strictly apply Article 149 of the 1987 Constitution in order to avoid the chaos that threatens the very foundations of the Haitian nation.

Long live the Haitian nation!

The representatives of the political parties therefore present this memorandum to be used as a legal document. The memorandum was written at the Diplomatic Lounge of the Legislative Chamber on 6 October. This memorandum is signed by Victor Benoit, National Congress of Democratic Movements; Mrs. Myrlande Manigat [wife of former President Leslie F. Manigat], National Assembly of Progressive National Democrats; Dr. Wilfrid D. McNally, Haitian Christian Democratic Party [PDCH]; Dr. Joseph Remy Joseph, National Cooperative Action Movement; Jude L. Jean-Jacques, Association of Young People's Power of Haiti; Andre Brutus, National Progressive Revolutionary Party of Haiti [PANPRA]; Jean-Lesly Dominique, PANPRA; Robert Ulysse, PDCH; Daniel Charles, PDCH; Frantz Edouard, National Labor Party [PNT], Wesner Morency, PNT; Rene Theodore, Unified Party of Haitian Communists and National Reconstruction Movement; Evans Paul, National Front for Change and Democracy [FNCD]; Maurepas Auguste, Movement for Democratic Unity; Raphael Faustin, FNCD; Dieudonne Laroche, Mobilization the National Development; Henry Piquion, National Patriotic Movement of 28 November; Jean-Claude H. Roy, Union of Haitian Constitutionalists; Louis Dejoie, National Agricultural and Industrial Party; Frantz Verret of National Rally Party; Francois Benoit, Movement for the Establishment of Democracy in Haiti [MIDH]; Marc Bazin, MIDH; and (Alex Andre Dominique), APR [expansion unknown].

* PAN Council Reviews Political Panorama

92CA0001A Mexico City LA JORNADA in Spanish 11 Sep 91 p 18

[Text of National Action Party, "National Council Declaration"; issued in Leon, Guanajuato, 8 September 1991]

[Text] 1. The National Council of the National Action Party [PAN], meeting in the city of Leon, Guanajuato, has reflected upon, analyzed, and debated, precisely and thoroughly, the country's overall situation, the 1991 electoral process, the party's own activity, and our political line.

2. With deep respect it congratulates Mexico City, which has once again expressed itself with peaceful energy and determination in favor of an urgent transition to democracy. It thanks the very appreciable, growing portion of the electorate that has voiced its confidence in the democratic option represented by the PAN, and its overt support for our candidates, programs, and plans, marked by authentic modernity: democracy for justice with liberty.

3. With a clearcut political decision to serve as an effective instrument to fulfill the Mexican people's undeferrable needs, it receives its mandate, attempting to meet this serious obligation responsibly and speedily. And it is encouraged by the agreement and approval given by millions of Mexicans for the main content of its political line.

4. Transcending the at times strident dissent of certain political organizations (which, unfortunately for them, have met with disapproval of their political lines), and also transcending critics of various types, both national and foreign, we are primarily concerned about the option and free opinion of the Mexican people. We are heedful of it now, and with a view toward the 21st century.

5. The democratic will of Mexicans and, with it, we in the PAN, are still being confronted with an autocratic will in 1991. There is still the extremely serious problem of a lack of democratic political legitimacy, something based solely on a free, respected vote. The authoritarian conviction of a simple minority still makes it unwilling to submit to the judgment and sanction of Mexicans; and it has shown in various ways its refusal to allow the vote in Mexico to count and be counted.

6. It is radically unacceptable that, in Mexico, at the end of the 20th century and in a world becoming democratized, owing to the obstinacy of certain media the voters should still have difficulty in becoming politically informed, so as to come out in favor of the political option of their preference, because of not being included on the list of voters, or not having received their credentials. It is also intolerable that they should still have to defend their own elections. It is revoltingly unjust and anachronistic that electoral processes, such as that of 1991, in an actual state of collapse without enforcement of the approved laws in effect, and hence failing to keep the promise of a national accord for the expansion of democratic activity made by the federal chief executive on 1 December 1988, should become a race infested with obstacles. We reject the government's proposal of postponing political reform until economic reforms have been completed. We maintain that there will only be genuine economic reform if, at the same time, there is authentic political reform.

7. At this point in our history, Mexico is faced with the potentially tragic dilemma between the people's decision for democratic political modernity and the attempts at pre-modern restoration of an almost unique party system; between the will for peaceful transition to democracy and the efforts to nullify it. In 1991 the courageous clearsightedness of millions of democratic Mexicans has thwarted those vain illusions of restoration, sought through a scandalous electoral fraud. This attempt even stooped to extremes of brutally primitive violence in the state of Sonora, where we demanded an immediate cessation of the repression against the citizens.

8. Precisely because of the country's extremely delicate situation, and its enormous potential for the future, National Action considers the puristic contradistinctions between dialogue and confrontation, and between legitimate negotiations or movements for just claims and protests in defense of the human rights of all Mexicans, either false, foolish, or futile.

9. Because what is involved is neither the party itself, nor leaders or candidates, but rather an intention to be of useful service to Mexico, National Action will continue using absolutely all the legitimate means at its command which, based on an autonomous, responsible judgment, it honestly expects to lead to the establishment of democracy in our nation as a necessary requisite for building among all of us a society worthy of and commensurate with human beings.

10. For this purpose, it is urgently essential that all of us overcome the very dangerous blurring of distinctions between state, government, and government party. In this common effort (there is risk for everyone), and in political activity, dialogue is an essential, mandatory instrument, based on assumptions of good faith. With this demand, National Action reaffirms its well-disposed intention of proliferating forceful, civilized dialogue with all the country's political forces, and on all those levels of authority inside and outside Mexico that it deems feasible and demonstrably of service to the needs and demands of all Mexicans.

11. The decision to participate in the electoral processes over the coming years will have to be made by National Action with complete liberty in each instance, and based on a clearcut demand for the operative, respected establishment of a competitive party system.

This includes the revision of the voters' registers and lists; the issuance of credentials with a photograph for

voting; definite punishment, according to law, for violators of the human rights of Mexicans; and a battle against impunity so clearly visible that it leaves no room for doubts. It also includes correcting the perverse manner in which the principle of subsidies in programs such as PRONASOL [National Solidarity Program] is being falsified in a partisan manner; and giving the news media an impetus to serve as a means of political information for, and training of Mexicans; hence, affording them liberty in taking political options.

12. The National Council reaffirms the fact that Vicente Fox was the winner of the elections for governor of the state of Guanajuato. It rejects the outrage to which the citizens were victims, and the disdain shown by the local electoral authorities to whom the PAN appealed to demand justice. Nevertheless, it will continue with this persistent endeavor on the occasion of the local and federal legislative elections.

It congratulates the people of Guanajuato, whose brave and heroic resistance prevented the consummation of the attempted imposition. The rectification made by the regime of its own cheating is insufficient to address the demand by National Action; however, it has made possible the restoration of the order destroyed by electoral fraud, and partial reparation for the damage caused thereby, inasmuch as it allows for the holding of new elections under the supervision of honest authorities.

It is for that reason that this Council reiterates its determined and categorical support for the interim governorship, to be assumed by Carlos Medina Plascencia, whose efficiency and integrity are the pride of the people of Leon and of National Action.

13. The National Council reiterates its decided support for the struggle of the people of San Luis Potosi against the consummation of the electoral fraud perpetrated upon the citizens of San Luis Potosi. And it declares that it will continue to uphold the legal, moral, and peaceful measures that they may adopt in the defense of their dignity and rights. In our view, only Dr. Salvador Nava Martinez has moral legitimacy for being considered governor of that state.

14. Again expressing its solidarity and thorough agreement with the democratic intentions of millions of Mexicans, National Action declares that, with a view toward the objectives cited herein, its candidates-elect for the Senate of the Republic and the Chamber of Deputies of the Federal Congress are already working to prepare for their immediate legislative activity. They are emphasizing, among other aspects, the revision and improvement of the election laws and agencies, and those related to potential free-trade treaties and all their political, legal, social, and cultural consequences: In a Congress whose majority is not truly representative, the legitimate interests of Mexicans are not fully guaranteed.

15. National Action, a democratic instrument in the service of Mexicans, is organized and structured decisively in the present, and with a view toward the future of Mexico. It manifests its administration and learns from the example, given to all, by the staunch will of democratic citizens throughout the entire country, especially in regions such as Guanajuato, San Luis Potosi, Yucatan, or Chiapas. It is constantly analyzing and studying the country's problems, and proposing, or applying as a government, viable solutions. Thus, from now on it will be preparing government programs with a view toward the exercise of democratic power in electoral processes during the years to come in Mexico.

On Behalf of an Orderly, Generous Nation

Leon, Guanajuato, 8 September 1991

In charge of publication: Alberto Antonio Loyola

Science, Technology Accord Signed With Germany

PA0810202191 Mexico City Red Nacional 13 Imevision Television in Spanish 1300 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Report by Hector Ramos]

[Text] The CONACYT [National Council for Science and Technology] and the National Scientific Council of Germany have signed an agreement to allow the development of joint projects and to sponsor a scientific and technological exchange. The agreement will sponsor scientific cooperation for the next five years, through joint research projects that will be led by scientists from the two countries.

CONACYT Director Fausto Alzati said that the agreement will only be beneficial if the scientific community submits initiatives and projects that can be implemented through the agreement.

[Begin Alzati recording] If the scientific community does not submit proposals for joint research projects that we will be able to finance through the agreement; if the scientific community does not submit proposals for the exchange of professors at the highest level; and if the scientific community does not submit plans and applications to grant post-graduate, doctorate, and post-doctorate scholarships to students; the agreement will simply be a beautiful dream. It will only be a signature on a document. [end recording]

The scientific cooperation agreement between Mexico and Germany was signed by Fausto Alzati, director of CONACYT; and Hubert Mart, of the National Scientific Council of Germany.

El Salvador

Cristiani on FMLN in National Police

PA0710162091 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 5 Oct 91 p 5

[Text] President Alfredo Cristiani has revealed that the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] has pledged not to demand the incorporation of its members into the Armed Forces or the dissolution of the Army. In exchange for this, he added, the government accepted the participation of former terrorists in the civilian National Police.

It was learned on 4 October that the president met separately on 3 October with Army officers and approximately 100 businessmen to answer their questions regarding the significance of the New York Agreements and how they would lead to the dissolution of the FMLN as an armed group.

According to our reporters, during the meeting with the businessmen held at the Commerce Chamber, the president stated that the New York Agreements were signed with the understanding that the FMLN would no longer demand the dissolution of the Armed Forces. This FMLN demand had slowed down the negotiations for nearly two months.

In addition, it was learned that the National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace (Copaz) will not participate in the negotiations between the government and the FMLN, because—according to the New York Agreement—this commission lacks executive authority and its task is limited to the verification of the agreements.

According to sources, when questioned by businessmen on the lack of guarantees demanded from the FMLN in the agreements, Cristiani said that—given the fact that the FMLN is an illegal armed group—the government could only ask for one thing: The demobilization of the FMLN.

Cristiani explained that in the New York Agreements, the government pledges to conduct a purge and reduce the size of the Armed Forces.

It was also learned that in the meeting with the UN secretary general, the FMLN proposed to discuss the reduction of the Armed Forces based on numbers, but the government refused to do so. Instead, the government managed to focus the negotiations on other criteria, such as budget reduction.

Regarding the academic training of the members of the Armed Forces and the Civilian National Police, Cristiani said that the parties agreed to create a military school and a public security academy, which will be an academic council made up of civilian and military officers. He added that this council will be responsible to ensure that the admission system is not discriminatory and that the professors are not members of different political factions.

These sources claimed that, according to the explanation made by Cristiani, it was not agreed that a member of the FMLN would join the academic council of the military school, as was proposed by the rebels.

In addition, it was learned that the so-called "abridged agenda" restricts the future negotiations to the issues of the Armed Forces, the conditions to attain a cease-fire, the political participation of the FMLN, and the verification of the agreements.

In addition, the discussion of issues where progress has already been made—such as the judicial system, electoral reform, ratification of constitutional reform, and the social and economic situation—will continue.

The aforementioned statement means that the FMLN can no longer use the strategy of including new topics in the discussion agenda in order to delay reaching agreements.

Arena on FMLN Joining Peace Commission

PA0710165991 San Salvador LA PRENSA GRAFICA in Spanish 5 Oct 91 p 9

[Text] Armando Calderon Sol, president of the Nationalist Republican Alliance [Arena], has said that his party does not object to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] joining the National Commission for the Consolidation of Peace [Copaz], however, the party does object to the FMLN delegates returning to the country before a cease-fire is signed.

This means, Calderon Sol said, that it is better for Copaz to work outside the country, just as the dialogue commissions, until a cease-fire agreement is reached. He added that there are sufficient modern methods to communicate with both sides.

He also said that, after a cease-fire is reached, Copaz can work in the country and the FMLN participants, who are members of the commission, can also enter El Salvador without any obstacles. Arena, Calderon Sol said, thinks the FMLN delegates should not be allowed to come and go freely in the country while violent actions of the insurgents rage in the country.

Regarding Arena's delegates to Copaz, Calderon Sol said they will be Francisco Jose Guerrero and himself.

Asked why the Armed Forces leaders did not disclose the creation of Copaz, Calderon Sol said that the military is criticized when they speak out and also when they do not. This makes for a difficult position. He finally said that the best thing the Armed Forces can do is just stick to their constitutional duties.

Two Officers in Jesuit Case May Be Freed

PA0810230191 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 0300 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Report by Alfredo Villareal]

[Text] The release from jail of the two lieutenants found not guilty in the Jesuit murder case seems uncertain. There are two legal options with regard to the two officers who face charges of conspiracy to commit terrorist acts: One alternative excludes the release from jail of people charged with this crime; the other alternative, the emergency law, provides for the release of inmates who have not been sentenced.

One of the defenders of Lt. Espinosa Guerra and Lt. Guevara Cerritos, who now face conspiracy and terrorist charges, said that they may be released under the emergency law, which affects inmates who have not been convicted—a special law that pardons crimes that call for jail terms of less than three years. The defense attorney believes that there is a possibility that Judge Zamora may decide to apply the emergency law.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified defense attorney] The judge has always acted within the law. The law is very clear and precise and we have faith that the law will be upheld.

[Villareal] When do you expect your clients to be released?

[Defense attorney] If the prosecutors reply tomorrow, the judge has three days to decide. That means this week.

[Villareal] You are sure your clients will be freed?

[Defense attorney] Of course.

[Villareal] Why?

[Defense attorney] Because this crime does not call for a mandatory jail term and the emergency law does not change that. [end recording]

The prosecutor, however, has not yet decided to support the defense arguments. According to Prosecutor Eduardo Pineda, human rights coordinator at the prosecutor's office, the Penal Code establishes that the crime of which the officers are accused is punishable by imprisonment. The emergency law, however, may release them. Pineda said that the decision will therefore be based on a legal opinion.

[Begin Pineda recording] While the Penal Code excludes these crimes from the benefit of jail release, we have the emergency law to resolve cases of inmates who have not been convicted, which allows for the possibility of their release. What the District Attorney intends to do is integrate both legal precepts and rule as closely to the law as possible. The district attorney's obligation is to ensure that the law is upheld. I cannot, at this time, give an opinion on this particular case. [end recording]

Of a total of six soldiers the jury found not guilty in the Jesuit murder case, four have already been freed. The only ones who remain confined are the two officers who will be released if the judge so decides.

Defense Ministry Says FMLN Crimes Go Unpunished

PA0810155291 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 3 Oct 91 pp 3, 41

[Text] The Defense Ministry has charged the FMLN [Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front] with murdering Armed Forces members with impunity throughout the course of its terrorist trail. However, until now, none of the organizations claiming to defend human rights has exerted any pressure for the guilty parties to be punished.

A Defense Ministry communique asserts that, along with the selective murders staged by the FMLN, one must add the irrational destruction the terrorists have engaged in during the 11-year conflict.

The list of homicides committed by the FMLN includes three U.S. military advisers the terrorists murdered after downing the helicopter in which they were traveling on 2 January in Lolotique.

The Defense Ministry asks: "Who will demand that the FMLN leaders be punished for so many murders, kidnappings, destruction, and other crimes?"

The report lists some of the soldiers murdered by the FMLN terrorists, the principle ones being:

1) Colonel Ricardo Aristides Cienfuegos was murdered on 7 March 1985 while he participated in a sports event at the International Sports Circle.

2) Lieutenant Trinidad Carlos Humberto Acosto was murdered on 3 July 1989 when he made a stop while driving along the Southern Highway and Alberto Einstein Avenue in the capital.

3) Lt. Jose Candido Alfaro was machine-gunned down by the terrorists on 25 September 1989 in front of his home in the Los Eliseos neighborhood, south of the capital.

4) Col. Arturo Armando Rivera, former Firemen's Corps director, was murdered on 27 June 1989 while driving near La Bermeja cementary.

5) Second Lt. Salvador Enrique Salazar Hernandez, who the terrorists abducted on 7 April 1990 from a party at a club on Coatepeque Lake, was subsequently riddled with bullets.

6) Major Carlos Alfonso Figueroa Morales was murdered in the same way on 9 July 1990 as he was leaving a private university where he studied in the Buenos Aires neighborhood.

7) Captain Ramon Aristides Reyes was machine-gunned on 17 July 1990 while driving with his wife, who was seriously wounded, in front of the Santa Cecilia de Santa Teda School.

8) Capt. Alfredo Lopez Aviles was murdered by the terrorists on 17 June 1991 in the La Cima neighborhood, south of the capital.

9) Capt. Nestor Ariel Lam was murdered by the terrorists on 25 July 1991 while driving along the Comalapa highway at Km 23 on his way to Zacatecoluca, La Paz.

The Defense Ministry communique adds that among the terrorists' crimes are the murders of an official's mother and brother, a colonel's daughter, a general's son-in-law, and other similar crimes that have gone unpunished.

"The long list of FMLN crimes includes the murder of Military Judge Dr. Alberto Serrano; scholars Edgar Chacon, Gabriel Payes, and Francisco Peccorini; General Prosecutor Dr. Roberto Garcia Alvarado; Presidency Minister Dr. Antonio Rodriguez Porth; former Supreme Court of Justice President Dr. Francisco Jose Guerrero; and others," the communique notes.

The communique points out that the terrorists have attacked the homes of high-ranking government authorities such as Vice President Francisco Merino and Col. Orlando Carranza of Military Detachment No. 5, and those of other authorities.

Further on FMLN Commander's Comments

PA0810021391 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 5 Oct 91

["Excerpts" of news conference hosted by Commander Facundo Guardado, of the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, FMLN, with unidentified reporters in San Jose de las Flores, Chalatenango Department on 4 October—passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] [Station announcer] Commenting on the opposition of factions within Arena [Nationalist Republican Alliance] and the Salvadoran Armed Forces to complying with the agreements, Commander Guardado said:

[Guardado, in progress] "....trying to tell us what is going to happen here. We feel that factions within Arena, the Army, and the government will now try to prevent fulfillment of these agreements, because they touch and affect their interests. We do not doubt that many top ranking officers really want to stage a coup. We contend that such a wish can become a reality. We believe that this is possible, but not likely, and certainly not likely to succeed.

"We feel that implementation of this entire package of agreements will entail a process that will be hampered by fascist rightist sectors. Those who have held power, who have gone unpunished, and who have become rich with the money of the people and U.S. aid, will oppose implementation of these agreements. We are, however, sufficiently confident that a connection among political, social, and religious forces has been established that is capable of advancing this process. It is also capable of pushing it through so that no obstacle can stop it.

"In this respect, we feel that we can reach a phase where our people can feel confident, confident that changes can be achieved through other means. We must clearly state, however, that there is no confidence among the opposition forces and among the Salvadoran left, but that those sectors will not oppose the agreements. The process itself will determine if the struggle can be carried out through other means. It is clear that satisfactory compliance with the agreements would make all of us confident that the struggle can be carried out through other means and that we no longer have to resort to the use of force to achieve the changes the country needs.

"The question is, what do we mean by peace? When we talk of achieving and consolidating peace, we feel that it is strictly connected to resolving the serious problems of poverty, neglect, and the lack of opportunities in the fields of health and education that the majority of the people experience. We are saying that peace can only be achieved if those structural causes that led to the conflict, and Cristiani has been forced to admit as much, are settled. We feel that peace is possible if all the political and social groups are allowed to express their views, and if their views are not repressed. Actions by peasants, state workers, and community and neighborhood groups to press their demands should no longer be crushed.

"This situation requires greater participation on the part of the people to build and forge their own future. If the people can participate to forge their future, peace can be consolidated."

[Station announcer] With regard to the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front [FMLN] proposal for an informal truce to expedite the talks to come to real agreements, Commander Guardado said:

[Guardado] "We view it favorably and have our initiatives in this respect. It is just that the other side's current stance is totally opposed to reaching a truce or informal cease-fire. We are adhering to our initiative. We feel that it would eliminate the reasons for soldiers to continue to conduct operations, since soldiers are affected by the war, as are the FMLN fighters. As far as we are concerned, however, we will continue our operations as long as the other side adamantly continues its operations.

"Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Pacas said that the FMLN continues its operations, but failed to say that the Army is continuing its military operations in different parts of the country. During that period.... [pauses] What we are proposing now is an informal agreement, so if no.... [pauses] so that this truce is implied. The truth is that this creates a number of difficulties and a propaganda war can be unleashed. That is why we are talking

about a pact in which not all aspects are formalized, but that contains certain rules with some flexibility to [word indistinct]."

[Station announcer] Concerning the FMLN's decision to participate in the country's political activities, Comrade Facundo Guardado said:

[Guardado] "For our part, we have decided to participate in all political activities, but only on equal terms. This is why we are seeking reorganization of the judicial system, the electoral system, human rights, etc."

[Station announcer] Friends, we are listening to excerpts of statements by Commander Facundo Guardado during a press conference on 4 October. With regard to a reduction in the Armed Forces, the creation of a national civil police force, and possible FMLN participation in this new police force, the commander said:

[Guardado] "I want to talk about a reduction in the size of the Armed Forces. We believe that if there is a desire to work toward peace, there is no point in having an army disproportionate to the needs of this country, especially since this country has very few economic resources. El Salvador should apply these resources to other areas, such as health, housing, education, etc.

"We did, therefore, present a specific proposal that calls for a drastic reduction in the size of the Army. We understand that there is also a process throughout Central America designed to reduce the size of armies. If here in El Salvador we want to achieve peace in record time, the other party must be willing to dismantle the entire war machine put together over the course of 70 years—especially over the past 11 years.

"The agreement clearly stipulates, however, that there will be no discrimination against anyone. The FMLN is demanding not only changes in the law, but in the persons who are charged with enforcing the law in this country.

"Will FMLN members then participate? Of course, they will participate. Will they have to go through an academy? To assume responsibilities, everyone must go through a learning process in the corresponding field. Will there be requirements? Of course there will be requirements. We also demand that all those soldiers who have used the security forces to impose their will, prolong impunity, and become rich... [pauses] We do have our own very clear condition that any such oppressors and criminals not participate in any new security force. We wish, however, to have capable, responsible, and serious personnel. We do not want the police to be a source of corruption, or to consist of thieves and people who impose the will of the civilian population. Of course, there will have to be prerequisites for everyone."

[Station commentator] Finally, with regard to FMLN participation in the country's political activities and in the 1994 elections, Commander Facundo Guardado said:

[Guardado] "We think that if the other side seriously believes that we are in the midst of a peace process—a process that involves unrestricted political participation—then there should be no reason for members of the FMLN, who are devoted to political activities, not to do so openly and publicly, without any restrictions. This is not the situation right now.

"However, we do believe that once the agreements are signed, the FMLN will enter a phase of unlimited political participation, like any other political force, and under conditions different from those of repression and impunity that currently exist."

Nicaragua

Stolen Arsenal Reportedly Exchanged for Drugs

PA0810181491 Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 1 Oct 91 pp 1, 12

[Text] There is intense cocaine and weapons trafficking between Nicaragua and Colombia, according to remarks by Colombian Military Intelligence Chief Manuel Bonnet on 1 October in Bogota, after four days of "intense investigations" in Managua.

Local newspapers published a photograph of Bonnet with Lenin Cerna, chief of the Sandinist security apparatus, which is sponsored by the "Stasi" and is in charge of Nicaragua's "military intelligence." Bonnet did not comment on his investigation in Managua during his stay in Nicaragua. In Bogota, however, he reported that Nicaragua is a stop on the international cocaine route from Colombia to the United States.

A Colombian Army communique issued on 1 October states that "Colombia and Nicaragua are currently the center of a flourishing weapons and drug trade, including the exchange of cocaine for equipment for guerrillas and drug traffickers."

According to these reports, the powerful arsenal Major General Joaquin Cuadra reported last week as having been illegally taken from a warehouse by 10 Nicaraguan and two Colombian soldiers involved in a guerrilla movement was not sold but exchanged for drugs, which in turn were sold to the U.S. connection for fresh dollars.

The officer said the two Colombians arrested in Managua, who are being investigated for the theft of 636 mortar grenades, surface-to-air missiles, and antitank grenades, were idenfied as Jorge Monge and Libardo Parra, former members of M-19 [19 April Movement].

The weapons, which have enormous destructive capacity, were stolen on 10 and 15 May by a group of Nicaraguan soldiers who later sought to sell them.

"The weapons were not stolen with Colombia in mind as a specific destination. Nor was there a plan to send them to the Colombian guerrillas; the idea was to sell them to the Savadoran or Guatemalan rebels," Bonnet said.

Bonnet added that "according to reports from Nicaraguan authorities, a great deal of weapons trafficking goes on in the country. The weapons are purchased by drug traffickers or rebel groups operating in Colombia, Guatemala, and El Salvador."

Bonnet said that "because of the difficult situation in Colombia, criminals steal Army arsenals, which they sell to the highest bidder," adding that evidence exits that the weapons in question were going to be secretly sent to Colombia.

Following the ranking delegate's trip to Managua to investigate the weapons trafficking, the Colombian Army said that "weapons and drugs enter and leave Colombia and Nicaragua through San Andres, a Colombian island" in the Caribbean Ocean off Nicaragua's coast.

Bonnet traveled last week to Nicaragua to investigate the charges filed against Colombian Jorge Monge, who is a member of M-19, which was formerly a guerrilla group. Monge is also a MIDINRA [Ministry of Agricultural-Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform] adviser and was a special guest at the first the Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] Congress on 19 July.

Monge's arrest and the M-19's possible involvement in the weapons trafficking was widely covered by the Colombian press in the middle of the campaign for the 27 October Senate elections.

M-19 has denied any involvement in the trafficking of Soviet-made surface-to-air missiles, grenades, and other weapons stolen from a Nicaraguan arsenal.

According to the Army investigation, the weapons were intended for El Salvador or Guatemala but when the deal fell through they were offered to Monge because of his M-19 ties.

"Nicaraguan intelligence has confirmed the intense illegal trade between Colombia and Nicaragua," the Army said in a communique signed by Armed Forces Commander General Luis Roca Maichel.

Bonnet adds that "Nicaraguan intelligence" also involved Parra, an M-19 member known as "Commander Oscar," who was visiting the FSLN when the weapons were stolen.

Parra, according to Gen. Bonnet's investigations in Nicaragua, visited Managua between 30 July and 15 August to attend the FSLN congress as an M-19 representative. During this period he stayed at Monge's house.

"Consequently, the authorities believe he may have been aware of the deal," the Colombian Army's official report said.

Antonio Navarro Wolf, leader of the 19 April Movement Democratic Alliance, said that his organization more than any other is interested in resolving the incident, and "if anyone is involved he must answer for it."

FSLN Not in Group To Review Ownership Law

PA0910013691 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 3 Oct 91 pp 1, 12

[Report by Roberto Larios]

[Text] National Assembly President Alfredo Cesar and UNO [National Opposition Union] bloc leaders have accepted the government's proposal to withdraw the veto and have publicly pledged not to put Law 133 on ownership in force.

During a news conference yesterday, Cesar voiced his willingness to negotiate a "mutually acceptable" ownership law, but he is opposed to having the new law drafted by consensus. The National Assembly president and some UNO bloc leaders agreed among themselves not to negotiate what they refer to as "the rights established in Law 133 for people whose properties were confiscated."

Talking to BARRICADA, Presidency Minister Antonio Lacayo noted that Law 133 need not be the starting point of a new law. "We must start from scratch," he stated.

The executive branch did not accept Law 133 because it was constitutionally flawed. The FSLN [Sandinist National Liberation Front] yesterday reiterated its willingness to contribute to finding a negotiated solution, based on the drafting of a new law to replace the "Cesar Law." The FSLN bloc proposed the creation of a top-ranking political commmission between the UNO and the FSLN to seek the necessary consensus in the National Assembly to resolve the problem of ownership. Whether the end result is a new law or a greatly amended Law 133 is irrelevant; the important thing is that it must be "mutually acceptable," the FSLN added.

Lacayo disclosed that the executive has made progress in the text of a new bill, known even to Dr. Fernando Zelayo "El Diablo" ["The Devil"], who serves as Alfredo Cesar's plenipotentiary delegate in the talks with Dr. Tomas Delaney, legal adviser of President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro.

Although Cesar noted that he had UNO's "monolithic support," the radical sector within that alliance is following the negotiations between Cesar and Lacayo very closely. During a news conference yesterday, Cesar was "watched" by Deputy Eli Altamirano, who along with Deputy Miriam Arguello, serves as the "plenipotentiary delegate" of Vice President Virgilio Godoy in UNO talks with Cesar.

UNO will not accept anything detrimental to the rights established in Law 133 of those whose properties were confiscated, Liberal Constitutionalist Party Deputy Rodolfo Mejia Ubilla and Nicaraguan Democratic Movement Deputy Roberto Urroz told BARRICADA.

The FSLN denied it is participating in an assembly commission announced by Alfredo Cesar that will study the purported amendments to Law 133. Cesar abandoned an ordinary session to meet with reporters and

announce the creation of the commission that is to negotiate with the executive branch. He appointed Luis Sanchez as chairman of said commission and Luis Humberto Guzman, Hernaldo Zuniga, Eli Altamirano, Roberto Urroz, and Sandinists Dora Maria Tellez and Danilo Aguirre as members.

Speaking on behalf of the FSLN bloc, Tellez denied her party is participating in that commission appointed by Cesar. "The full assembly has not been informed of the appointment of said commission; we do not even know its goals. There is no official mandate by the National Assembly," she said to refute Cesar's announcement.

The FSLN warned of the "congressional mechanism" that Cesar seeks to use in the commission to review the new ownership law. That mechanism is simple. He appointed five UNO deputies and two FSLN deputies; that way, his "majority" will always prevail. "That mechanism already failed with Law 133, and he cannot continue using it. We now need a political mechanism, namely, a top-level commission of the 14 UNO parties and the FSLN to find political consensus within the assembly and the executive branch," Commander Tellez said.

The National Assembly continued its sessions yesterday, discussing the day's agenda, which did not include a ruling on the presidential veto this time either. Cesar suspended the sessions at noon and invited the deputies to attend a ceremony in memory of Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez.

Ortega Proposes To Negotiate New Property Law

PA0910034991 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 Oct 91 pp 1, 8

[Article by David Gutierrez Lopez]

[Text] Juigalpa—The Sandinist National Liberation Front [FSLN] proposed here to establish trilateral negotiations with the UNO [National Opposition Union] deputies and the government to draw up a new property law that does not violate the Constitution.

The proposal was officially made by FSLN Secretary General Daniel Ortega during an event in which the Sandinist Youth from Region Five received the Flag of Honor for its outstanding participation in social works and in the prevention of the cholera epidemic.

In the negotiating proposal, Ortega emphasized drawing up a new "just" property law. He invited the UNO deputies and the executive branch to inititate negotiations that would give "everyone the right to own land."

Ortega urged the workers to forget their political differences and join together to defend the land, companies, factories, houses, and other assets that "were confiscated and that the Somozists are trying now to take away."

He asserted that the orders to return confiscated properties to the owners "were not valid," while he warned that those who were affected by Decrees 3 and 38 [Somozists who properties were confiscated] under the Sandinist government should not file for a revision because "they do not even have the right to compensation."

The FSLN secretary general spoke in favor of the privatization process as long as it benefits the workers. He proclaimed: "We will draw up a new just law (on property) that is in line with the Constitution."

On the international scene, Ortega termed the agreement signed between the Salvadoran guerrilla Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the government of that nation as "positive," while he reiterated the Sandinists' solidarity with the Salvadoran people's struggle.

Ortega condemned the coup d'etat against Haitian President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, whom he labelled as "a religious man ousted by pro-Duvalier military forces in an army created by the United States."

The Sandinist leader censured the efforts by politicians, capitalists, and the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] to get back the properties that they acquired under the protection of the Somozist regime and that were later confiscated. He announced that many persons whose properties were confiscated include "rascals" who are seeking the return of properties for which they were compensated.

He expressed doubts about something he described as "big-time crime," noting that the people in the government are involved in "illicit" activities. He added that the bourgeoisie and COSEP members are divvying up the country among themselves.

Former President Ortega urged all peasants to unite and oppose "extremist minorities" who are threatening the security, life, and stability of the country. "The recontras do not represent the wishes of the peasants," Daniel Ortega affirmed, adding that the FSLN is seeking to guarantee the security of all Nicaraguans.

Commenting on the recompas, groups made up of former Sandinist servicemen and peasants belonging to cooperatives, he stated that "they were forced to take up arms to defend their legitimate right to live." Ortega talked about the importance of reaching an agreement with the government to expand the mandate of the OAS International Commission of Support and Verification in the country to protect the former contra rebels and Sandinist servicemen and to play an impartial role so that all Nicaraguans can live in peace.

Former President Ortega Comments on OAS Role

PA0810170491 Managua Sistema Nacional de Television Network in Spanish 0330 GMT 4 Oct 91

[From the nonofficial "Extravision" newscast, directed by Manuel Espinoza, former information minister under the Ortega administration]

[Text] Former President Commander Daniel Ortega, secretary general of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, met on 3 October in Nicaragua with Santiago Murray, representative of the OAS International Commission of Support and Verification [CIAV]. Ortega met with Murray to discuss OAS-CIAV assistance for the demobilized Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] fighters and all demobilized fighters. The atmosphere at the meeting was cordial.

[Begin Ortega recording] This was a very important meeting because of the tension in the country and the people's mistrust of the CIAV mission. We feel the CIAV's acts are positive, but the work the CIAV is doing at the government's request does not contribute to strengthening the CIAV's role but rather tends to weaken it. The CIAV favors only one group, not all the citizens involved in this recontra problem. Many have other economic and social problems.

We conclude that we must communicate with the government to improve this situation so the CIAV's role can be broadened and so it can play a more impartial role for the benefit of all Nicaraguans. We agreed with Mr. Murray that we must establish a permanant communications process to discuss any situation that may arise. [end recording]

Former Nicaraguan Resistance Members Form Party

PA0810033591 Managua Radio Nicaragua Network in Spanish 1815 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Former Nicaraguan Resistance [RN] members have formed a political party so that they can wage a political struggle. Five thousand persons signed the document, which was registered by Dr. Noel Rivera. The party will be called Nicaraguan Resistance Party [Partido de la Resistencia de Nicaragua, PRN] and its directorate board members have stated that the party will celebrate its first congress once the conditions under the political parties' law are met. Juan Angel Lopez, chairman of the RN directorate board, said that they will apply, through the National Political Parties Council, for the party's registration at the Supreme Electoral Council once the conditions are met.

These are the RN Directorate Board members: Juan Angel Lopez, chairman; Luis Fley, assistant chairman; Roger Guzman, treasurer; Joel Valdez, public relations; Jose Rivera, international relations; Hector Sanchez, ideology and law; William Sotelo, organization secretary; and Dr. Noel Rivera, legal adviser.

* RN Groups, Political Aspirations Described

91CA0227A Managua LA PRENSA in Spanish 11 Sep 91 pp 1, 16

[Article by Roger Suarez M.; quotation marks as published]

[Text] More than a year after its deactivation, members of the Nicaraguan Resistance (RN) find themselves in a phase of profound and irreconcilable schism. The former leaders of the group, many of whom are alienated from their bases because they have joined bureaucratic government circles, are finding it increasingly difficult to defend their leadership and influence. On the other hand, the groups that have taken up arms again are gaining ever more influence over the population, despite the fact that their military potential continues to be limited.

The goal of both sectors, although they are composed of different groups, is to exert pressure on the government to keep the promises made with the Resistance when the agreement on the abandonment of its weapons was signed. As time passes, however, these goals are becoming increasingly confused. New claims and demands are being added to the old ones.

According to statements made by Minister of Government Carlos Hurtado to AP correspondent Filadelfo Aleman yesterday, the members of the group have recently "succeeded in consolidating the demands made of the government, which are no longer exactly for 'land and assistance,' but are of a more political nature, such as the removal of General Humberto Ortega as commander in chief of the Armed Forces."

RN Members in Government

The faction of "governmental" opposition members is in danger of losing its usefulness to the government as the influence of its members on those who have laid down their arms wanes. "The useful life of these government employees is reaching its end," one of the advisers to Minister of Government Carlos Hurtado commented. "Now they will have to seek new people enjoying a more current relationship with the demobilized mass to replace them in these posts," he commented with ill-concealed sarcasm.

The Nicaraguan Civic Resistance Association and the Nicaraguan Resistance Party, the group headed by the former commander "Franklin," or Israel Galeano, are among the factions into which the faction in government has split.

Galeano, who currently heads the Interinstitutional Office at the Ministry of Government, which deals with veterans affairs, is the man who seems to have the best relationship with the Army. His principal assistant is Jose Benito Bravo ("Mack"), who was identified recently by America Watch, the human rights organization, as an individual responsible for human rights violations. This organization asked the government to remove him from the state employment roster and to file suit against him.

The Nicaraguan Civic Resistance Organization is the only faction that has acquired legal capacity.

It is headed by Oscar Sobalvarro, who is now accused of being "progovernment" by the northern faction that has

taken up arms again, because he holds the post of deputy director of the government's Repatriation Institute.

"Had I not held this post, I would certainly have not been able to obtain thousands of dollars to finance the production work and the development of projects for the members of the RN," Sobalvarro told this journalist in response to the accusations made by his former comrades in struggle that he is "progovernment."

In the 25 minutes the interview lasted, we had to interrupt on more than seven occasions. Members of the deactivated faction came to his office unannounced to ask for his aid.

"Ruben, I need you to get me something for the ticket so I can return to Rio Coco, and also, if you can, get us some tires to put on an old Was, and some gas coupons, and if you have...." This request came from a young member of the demobilized faction who said he was the younger brother of commander "Bigote de Oro" (Golden Mustache), who has joined the group, which has taken up arms again and is attacking the position adopted by the deputy director of the Repatriation Institute.

"I support the security petition sponsored by the rearmed faction, but I do not agree with the statement that the only method still available for ensuring that the government responds to the demands is war," "Ruben" said. He accused the armed groups in the North of adopting the attitude of a gang of bandits. Curiously enough, this was the argument used by Daniel Ortega's government when the RN was based in the mountains.

"Ruben" also controls the Agrarian Reform Institute through his adviser, "Pepe" Matus, who became the civilian commander and political adviser of the General Staff of the North Front during the final months of the war. The former rebel commander travels about in a light truck, a Land Cruiser of the latest model, which is valued at $30,000.

The Rearmed Groups

The armed groups operating in the North include the so-called Democratic Forces of National Salvation of the RN, which is headed by a Council of Commanders.

The Council's members are Dimas "Tigrillo" (Gray Fox), "Campeon" (Champion), "Bolivar," "Andres," and "Dumas," among others. According to reports from our correspondent Celso Martinez, "Indomable" (Indomitable) will shortly join the Council. The establishment of the Council of Commanders leads political observers to think that the demobilized faction is escalating to higher levels of organization.

According to the statements made by Minister Hurtado to AP correspondent Filadelfo Aleman, the rebels who have taken up arms again total almost 600 men.

The opposition movement has received a great deal of publicity abroad, which makes it increasingly urgent that the government reach an agreement with them.

New Party Announced

While this is happening in the North, in Managua, several individuals who served as commanders on the former South Front; Luis Fley, of the former North Front; and Osorno Coleman, representing Yatama, are joining together to form the Nicaraguan Resistance Party.

This group is working to acquire a juridical personality, and its publicist, Carlos Maturana, has said that this organization will indeed "promote and protect the fundamental rights of the deactivated rebels."

Maturana said that the organization will not attack the "demobilized brothers, although we differ with them about the methods needed to achieve the same goals."

Luis Fley ("Johnson"), one of those closest to the murdered leader Enrique Bermudez, said for his part about the new Nicaraguan Resistance Party, of which he is a member, that "we must establish this party in order to ensure that our efforts, our sufferings, and the blood shed by our comrades in struggle have not been in vain."

He went on to add that "without this Resistance Party, the thousands of us who have been demobilized would end up disorganized." The former combatant expressed the view that if the decision to found a new party were not adopted, the deactivated rebels would in the end be reduced to a group of former combatants holding annual reunions to "honor the veterans of the war."

Concerning those who have taken up arms again in the northern part of the country, "Johnson" said he believed that in fact their demands are just. "And if they rearmed themselves, it is the fault of the Sandinists who are harassing them. But it must be made clear that these individuals should use these weapons only to protect themselves, and not to initiate a war."

"There is no cause that would justify armed struggle, because we now have a legitimate government. It can be applauded, but it can also be criticized for its bad actions," he said.

"The banner of the RN is becoming ever more attractive politically, and there are many who are trying to raise it for political and even future electoral purposes," a member of the National Assembly who was a member of the RN has said. "There are not only members of the demobilized factions and their family members, comprising a population mass of a total of about 100,000 persons, but there are many sympathizers with the Resistance in the civilian population, as well. They are comparing the peasant combatants with the traditional political class, to the advantage of the former."

Oscar Sobalvarro, of the Civic Association, denied that his group is political in nature. He said that it only seeks "to bring together those who want to work for the incorporation of the demobilized faction in the economic life of the country."

Sobalvarro has appealed to the members of all of the organizations, which have laid down their arms, to avoid using violent language in their criticisms of other leaders of the former RN, because "this might be used by the Sandinists to justify undertaking actions against the leaders of the demobilized factions and then pushing the blame on the group that made the violent criticisms."

Recontras, Recompas Clash in Northern Region

PA0810020491 Managua Radio Ya in Spanish 1200 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Armed clashes between the recontras and the so-called recompas [former Sandinist servicemen who have grouped together to face the recontras] have been reported in the Northern Region of the country. The latest reports say that at 1400 on 6 October, an armed conflict took place at La Zacatera, 15 km north of Wiwili. Other fighting and attacks by recontras in other areas of the region were also reported.

Two recontras were wounded and two civilians were killed in Pantasma. In San Rafael Del Norte two people were wounded and another was kidnapped. In an attack on the Moises Picado cooperative farm in Pancasan, the recontras killed Teodoro Davila, a Sandinist. One recontra was killed and four were wounded in the attack. During yesterday's clashes, four recontras were reportedly killed and several recompas and civilians were wounded in the crossfire.

Panama

More on Alleged Plot Against Endara

PA0910035091 Panama City EL PANAMA AMERICA in Spanish 8 Oct 91 p 1

[Report by Orlando Mendieta]

[Text] Panamanian authorities have ordered the arrest of several former officers of the defunct Panama Defense Forces who presumably were planning to stage terrorist actions against President Guillermo Endara's government during the month of October.

Former Major Carlos Saldana, known as "Superman," and former Lieutenant Alcibiades Rodriguez De La Cruz, known as "Teson," were reportedly the leaders of the uncovered plot. Saldana tried to take asylum at the Costa Rican embassy on 7 October but he decided to leave after the head of that mission told him that he was going to request information about him. Saldana was the officer who was involved in a strong verbal exchange with a U.S. soldier during one of the incursions by U.S. troops into Panama City weeks before the invasion.

The alleged subversive plan was uncovered through information provided by several military men arrested in September in Mariato, Veraguas Province when they were charged with staging robberies and carrying heavy weapons. According to an official spokesman, the prisoners identified Saldana as the alleged leader of the gangs that have held up several banks in the country. The stolen money was going to be used to buy weapons to topple President Endara.

The investigators have also found that a group of members of the disbanded "Macho de Monte" Company concealed weapons in secret tunnels that had been built in the Rio Hato military base. The weapons had been brought from Jaramillo Arriba in Chiriqui to the base in Cocle Province.

Attorney General Rogelio Cruz went to Veraguas Province over the weekend to question the soldiers who identified Saldana as the leader of the actions against the government.

It has also been learned that the plans of those organizing the subversive actions included the firing of a bazooka at the presidential palace. This is why the Institutional Protection Service (SPI) has installed a submachine gun on the presidential Palace of the Herons' heliport.

The other officer being sought by the authorities is Alcibiades Rodriguez De La Cruz, a member of the first graduating class of the Tomas Herrera Military Institute. His brother was the individual who ordered guards not to open fire on the helicopter used to rescue Colonel Eduardo Herrera from the Flamenco island prison in December.

In an impromptu news conference, Attorney General Rogelio Cruz confirmed the participation of the former officers in the subversive plans. Cruz said that the available information indicates that the group planning the subversive actions had the support of some private, student, union, and political sectors, although he clarified that the latter were not necessarily political parties.

He added that the group had reportedly told sectors in the Public Force that it had the support of units within that institution to carry out its objective.

According to the attorney general, the members of the defunct Macho de Montes Company were waiting for the delivery of RPG grenade launchers to attack the "supermarket," code name for the presidential palace, and to capture the three musketeers—the president and the two vice presidents.

Subversives Existence Confirmed

PA0810164691 Panama City Circuito RPC Radio in Spanish 1505 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Telephone interview with Attorney General Rogelio Cruz by Atenogenes Rodriguez on 8 October in Panama City—live or recorded; monitored in progress]

[Text] [Cruz]...for several months we have had reports on activities of alleged former Panama Defense Force [PDF] members. Now, we have confirmed information on former military members who have been trying to

organize groups in various provinces to either collect funds for their own personal use or to purchase weapons to overthrow the government. We have arrested several people who assaulted a cattle rancher less than a month ago in Veraguas Province. We have confirmed statements on this case by several people and have issued some arrest warrants. It seems we are up against something real. A group of people have been arrested, however, we believe there are other groups operating in other parts of the country.

[Rodriguez] Mr. Attorney General, you have told local newspapers that the former military members accused of these subversive activities are sought for actions committed on 20 December 1989.

[Cruz] No, I believe what I said was that of the two former military members, one left the PDF after 20 December and the other left around 1985. I believe this is what I said.

[Rodriguez] Mr. Attorney General, is there any connection between the former military members under detention and those who have arrest warrants pending, with former Colonel Eduardo Herrera-Hassan, who supposedly also took part in a military uprising on 5 December 1990?

[Cruz] We have certain confirmed reports on this topic; but we also have unconfirmed reports, which I personally view with much caution and cannot say they are true. Among these unconfirmed reports, some refer to Eduardo Herrera, but, I repeat, these reports are unconfirmed.

[Rodriguez] Does the uncovering of this subversive plan to overthrow the democratic government indicate there is a possibility that the group known as M-20 [20 December Movement] exists?

[Cruz] So much has been said about the M-20, but I have always said and I repeat, that the problem is not the group's name, the problem is the group or groups that could be operating. I believe we can now confirm that these groups have indeed been operating over the past few months.

[Rodriguez] Many thanks Mr. Attorney General for such important news this morning in which you confirm the existence of a subversive plan to install a new government—a plan that was broken up by national authorities.

Several Arrests Made

PA0810160391 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 8 Oct 91 p 1A

[Article by Vilma E. Figueroa B]

[Text] Attorney General Rogelio Cruz disclosed yesterday that two former members of the defunct Panama Defense Forces [PDF] and a subversive group planning to overthrow President Guillermo Endara's government have been arrested, however, Cruz warned that the democratic system "is in danger."

Cruz explained: "Now more than ever we can say that the Panamanian democratic system is in danger. The system is like a patient who has been operated on for a serious ailment and is undergoing a very difficult and long recovery period—if he is moved, he could die even though the operation was a success.

In an impromptu news conference, Cruz said that the former PDF members had been working with active police force members and influencing them with the idea that they would be better off with a change of government.

The attorney general said that the individuals arrested gave information that led to issuing arrest warrants for at least two former PDF members, who allegedly are the leaders of the group.

According to the individuals arrested and whose identities were not disclosed, the plan was to take over the police garrisons in the different provinces and then install a new government, as they believed that a second U.S. military intervention was absolutely improbable.

Cruz explained that this group has been staging several attacks, such as the one recently carried out on a private home in Veraguas Province to obtain funds to purchase weapons to topple the government and also for their own personal gain, according to the information from the Attorney General's Office.

Regarding the support this group has from active members of the Panama Public Force, [PPF] Cruz said that he has unconfirmed reports that there is some support from current PPF members.

Cruz refused to disclose the names of the group leaders who are currently on the run, however, he did report that one of them had requested political asylum at an embassy, however, he subsequently abandoned the diplomatic mission.

The attorney general believes that the current incident is comparable to the one that took place on 4 and 5 December, during the uprising led by Eduardo Herrera.

Cruz added that the current social problems and the unemployment situation have influenced some people to commit subversive activities.

The attorney general said that considering last December's experience, October to December seems a favorable period for subversive action.

Reports obtained by LA PRENSA indicate that the military personnel who attempted to obtain asylum at the Costa Rican Embassy were former PDF Lieutenant Alcibiades Rodriguez and Carlos Saldana, who are the leaders of the subversive movement and that private citizens Rodrigo Perez and Jorge Sanjur were arrested.

Argentina

Di Tella Says OAS Mission to Haiti 'Failed'

PY0810141491 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0959 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Oct (NA)—Foreign Minister Guido di Tella admitted today that the OAS mission to Haiti to reinstate President Jean-Bertrand Aristide "did not yield results," but emphasized that "it will" when OAS sanctions take hold.

Di Tella said the provisional president designated by the Haitian National Assembly "will not be recognized" because the legislative branch was under military control when it made the decision.

The foreign minister told Radio America that the OAS trip to Haiti "was rather turbulent" because soldiers broke into the airport, which had also been taken over by rebel military forces.

Di Tella said the mission made progress with members of the National Assembly. The minister made clear to the legislators that the president whom "they had designated was not going to be recognized."

Di Tella was a member of the OAS mission that traveled to Port-au-Prince with representatives of the United States, Canada, Venezuela, Bolivia, Trinidad-Tobago, and Jamaica.

Di Tella said the mission demanded Aristide's reinstatement and respect for democratic institutions and the Constitution. Di Tella said those "were OAS conditions."

"The mission failed but will yield results after the OAS votes on sanctions" against the military regime, Di Tella said.

The minister also said that the "military option" in Haiti being discussed by the OAS will permit "the success of the nonmilitary option."

Di Tella agreed with Defense Minister Erman Gonzalez on the need to be cautious before adopting a military option to reinstate Aristide.

Proposes Multinational Force

PY0810134091 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1310 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Oct (TELAM)—Foreign Minister Guido di Tella said that at a meeting of OAS foreign ministers today, Argentina will propose that a multinational force be created for restoring democracy in Haiti.

Di Tella said: "The use of force may be unsuccessful as such, but the possibility of resorting to it will make it possible for us to undertake negotiations in a different tone, exercising greater pressure."

He said: "This is a modification to the OAS Charter that we will propose—so this measure can become standard practice—because we want to exercise maximum pressure on Haiti, which has very serious problems that were not provoked by democracy."

He said: "The negotiations that we have thus far undertaken have been unsuccessful, but we trust we will succeed after we approve sanctions."

In statements to a radio station, the Argentine foreign minister added: "Yesterday we lived through a dramatic moment when we were expelled from the Haitian airport, where a group of soldiers came just to expel us."

He said: "We were a bit surprised by that because negotiations with the National Assembly were moving forward and there even seemed to be some understanding. Yet, when we were at the airport we learned that the Assembly had also been taken over by soldiers."

Opposes Sending Troops

PY0910110091 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0251 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 8 Oct (NA)—Defense Minister Antonio Erman Gonzalez stated his opposition to sending troops to Haiti, emphasizing the need to "respect" the principle of noninterference in the domestic affairs of every country.

"Our countries in general have chosen the democratic system and who are we to impose this system by force on other peoples who are not prepared or mature enough for it," the minister said.

Gonzalez added: "In any case, the issue must be discussed at the OAS and, as a member country, we will accept its decisions."

Gonzalez told his host during a television program that "we have to take into account that Haiti is an underdeveloped country with profound education and poverty problems that all countries should cooperate to alleviate."

"That is above any military action, which does not serve the higher goal of seeking the well-being of their people", Gonzalez said.

The defense minister noted that his ministry will sell several defense assets, including the 25 de Mayo aircraft carrier, "which has been justified up to now. However, the decision to sell it is definitive and the project and request for $250 million to refurbish it have been withdrawn," Gonzalez said.

"The political power cannot do without the military experience, but the military cannot ignore the budget crisis and the fact that the money can be better used to incorporate technological progress in other areas of the Armed Forces," Gonzalez said.

Government Studies Blockade

PY0810133891 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1106 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Oct (NA)—The Argentine Government is studying the possibility of participating in an eventual blockade of Haiti or of becoming involved in a multinational force to restore overthrown President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to the Presidency.

This was learned last night from Interior Ministry sources, who stated that on 2 October, Minister Jose Luis Manzano telephoned Foreign Minister Guido di Tella, who is on an official visit to Israel along with President Menem. Manzano presumably also held a similar consultation with Hernan Patino Mayer, Argentine ambassador to the OAS, in order to obtain information about the resolutions that the OAS could adopt.

Reportedly, the Justicialist Party has initiated contacts "with the other democratic parties of Latin America," thus beginning a round of consultations to determine the attitude that will be adopted to dissuade the military coup in Haiti.

Thus, Argentina is the first country on the subcontinent to launch an initiative to help the Haitian president, who asked the OAS [words indistinct] a force to persuade those who overthrew him, and he called on the loyal military to resist.

Japanese Companies To Install Fertilizer Plant

PY0710220491 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 7 Oct 91 p 7

[Excerpts]—Jorge Triaca, former labour minister and union leader and current trustee in the state-owned steel company Somisa [Argentine Iron and Steel Joint Association], disclosed that the Japanese companies Kobe Steel and Nisho-Iwai are planning to install a plant to produce fertilizers in San Nicolas using gas from Somisa which could contract some 1,500 of the Somisa workers currently in conflict with the company. The workers are expected to be dismissed before the company is privatized.

Somisa will sell the Japanese consortium some 180 hectares in San Nicolas worth 10,000 dollars each. The investment will be 400 million dollars and the Argentine companies Ormas and Benito Roggio will participate in the project.

The agreement could solve a large part of the labour problems afflicting the community of San Nicolas, which up to now depended mainly on the jobs offered by Somisa. The daily EL CRONISTA COMERCIAL disclosed yesterday that Triaca will officially announce the operation with the Japanese companies tomorrow.

The trustee pointed out that one of the conditions for Kobe and Nisho-Iwai to get the land and the gas contract will be to employ 1,500 Somisa workers in the two-year construction plan of the fertilizing industry and to select their 3,000-strong personnel from ex-Somisa employees. [passage omitted]

In related news, newly appointed Defence Ministry Planning Secretary Jorge Pereyra de Olazabal announced that all privatizations in that area—which include Somisa and Hipasam, where massive lay-offs prompted marches, demonstrations and hunger strikes from the workers last month—will be completed by December 1992, "starting with the petrochemical industries, where we are already working."

In the framework of a plan which includes total and partial privatizations, Pereyra de Olazabal stressed that Petroquimica Rio Tercero will be sold this year, while negotiations for the privatization of the petrochemical companies Bahia Blanca and General Mosconi will be well under way by the end of the year.

Bolivia

Positive Results Achieved by OAS Commission

PY0810134991 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Reportedly, the ad hoc OAS commission that is trying to solve the conflictive situation in Haiti has achieved positive negotiations. The mission is headed by Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde. Minister of the Presidency Gustavo Fernandez said that the problem may be solved at any time. He added that the appointment of Iturralde as the mission leader once again shows the importance of Bolivia among Latin American countries, adding that it stems from the democratic maturity and the political and socioeconomic stability enjoyed by the country. [passage omitted]

Reduction of U.S. Sugar Imports Deemed Harmful

PY0810160491 La Paz Television Boliviana Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Although the United States has reduced the sugar quotas for all countries in the world, Bolivia has kept its quota of 0.8 percent of overall U.S. sugar imports, which means that the reduction applies to volume alone.

Since establishment of the so-called export quotas for sugar in 1982, Bolivia gradually increased exports until it reached 16,273 metric tons; this has now been reduced to 10,571 metric tons due to the worldwide reduction of export quotas. Gabriel Losa Telleria, director of the Andean-Bolivian Cooperation Program, commented on this subject:

[Begin recording] The sugar issue must be analyzed within the framework of overall Bolivian-U.S. trade relations. The United States set a quota for Bolivia of 0.8 percent of total sugar imports to the United States, so the impact that this reduction may have on the United States is negligible while Bolivia will be hurt badly

because sugar is one of our main export commodities. There are other countries: The Dominican Republic has a quota of 18 percent of overall U.S. sugar imports, Brazil has 15 percent, and Guatemala has 5 percent. Thus, the United States applied a flat reduction rate without taking into account the impact it may have on the economies of countries and, especially, on current programs sponsored by the United States and the Andean countries with regard to the development of alternative crops to replace coca. First, Bolivia had a quota of 13,273 metric tons. Then it went up to 16,273. Now it has gone down to 10,571. This has been done under pressure from U.S. farmers, who have agricultural subsidies. [end recording]

Lawmaker Wants Repentance Decree Made Law

PY0810143391 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] The executive branch should make the Repentance Decree—which provides for the voluntary surrender of drug traffickers—into a law and thus preserve our country's legal system and avoid foreign intervention in the government decision-making process.

This statement was made by Juan Lucio, chairman of the Constitution, Government, Justice, Electoral System, and Community System Committee in Congress.

[Begin Lucio recording, in progress] ... is to make into a law, using the exact text of Article 5 of the decree. This article states that the Foreign Ministry will not act ahead of the Supreme Court—that is, it will not act as an agent or a middleman of any government that demands the extradition of any Bolivian who availed himself of the decree. Bolivian sovereignty would be preserved if the decree became a law.

We should remember that the executive branch decree was signed by the Interior Minister and by [Senator] Guillermo Fortun. If they now repent having signed the decree, well, that is another story. [end recording]

Peasant Union Declares State of Emergency

PY0810142391 La Paz Radio Fides Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] The General Trade Union Confederation of Bolivian Peasant Workers has declared a state of emergency over the militarization of coca-producing zones.

[Confederation member] Segundino Montevilla said that the peasants may mobilize to defend their traditional crops.

[Begin Montevilla recording] If the government, after disregarding the terms of the agreement that it signed [changes thought]... because the government originally said that it would only call in the Army if the Police became overwhelmed. However, not even the Repentance Decree seems to have been enough. We have said all along that it would be a failure, but the government has justified itself in the eyes of international and local opinion because if the Repentance Decree had succeeded, the militarization would not have been needed.

The eradication of coca crops was succeeding, but now the government has shown that it is incapable of governing our country, having resorted to force to eradicate coca crops. [end recording]

Brazil

Government Might Impose Price Controls Again

PY0810214091 Rio de Janeiro Rede Globo Television in Portuguese 1700 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] President Fernando Collor met with his economic team this morning to discuss the tax reform package. Before the meeting, the president regretted that the government might be forced to impose price controls again.

[Begin recording] What happens is regrettable. Once more we have given producers and traders total freedom to establish prices within the free market economy we all want. Unhappily, however, some people are abusing it. The government has intervened firmly every time these abuses are committed to prevent worse things from happening. [end recording]

The president said the government will adjust utility rates, but stressed that adjustments will not be implemented all at once, but spread over a few months until an ideal price is reached. Regarding tax reform, the government wants to present a tax bill this year, and it is studying ways to increase tax collections without fueling inflation.

Proposal To Amend Constitution Published

PY0810193791 Sao Paulo GAZETA MERCANTIL in Portuguese 5-6 Oct 91 p 8

[GAZETA MERCANTIL uses ellipses to indicate passages within the Constitution for which amendments have not been proposed and as such are omitted; quotation marks as published]

[Text] Following is the full text of the eight articles of proposed amendments to the Constitution submitted to the national Congress on 4 October:

Article No. 1: The articles of the Constitution of the Federative Republic of Brazil mentioned hereafter will read as follows:

"Article No. 21:...

VII - To issue money and public debt papers;

XI - To exploit, directly or through concession, or permission:

a. Telephone, telegraph, data transmission, and other public telecommunication services;

b. Refining of national or foreign oil, maritime transportation of national crude oil or oil by-products produced in the country and transportation, through pipelines, of crude oil, oil by-products, and natural gas of any origin;

c. Import and export of the products and by-products resulting from research and exploitation of deposits of oil, natural gas, or other liquid hydrocarbon elements;...

XXIII - To exploit, directly or through concession, the research, mining, and marketing of nuclear minerals as well as nuclear services and facilities of any type, and exercise government monopoly over conversion, reconversion, enrichment, reprocessing, and industrial use of nuclear ores and minerals and their derivatives, with due regard for the following principles and conditions:

a. Nuclear activities within the national territory will only be allowed if carried out for peaceful purposes and with the approval of the national Congress;

b. Production, marketing, and use of radio isotopes for research purposes and application in the fields of medicine, agriculture, industry and analogous activities are authorized under a system of concessions or permits;

c. Civil liability for nuclear or radioactive damage does not depend on the existence of culpability;..."

"Article No. 23:...

Paragraph 1: Complementary laws will be used to set the rules for cooperation among the Union and the States, the Federal District and the Municipalities, seeking balanced development and national welfare.

Paragraph 2: The Union, the States, the Federal District, and the Municipalities may reach additional agreements over the execution of their laws, services, or decisions, through their public servants."

"Article No. 37:...

XXII - The prohibition against accumulating position also applies to pensioners, except in legally established cases or in the case of a remuneration stemming from a legislative mandate, when on a special assignment or while employed on a temporary job....

"Article 40:...

Paragraph 1: The law will provide for social security financing and plans for public servants.

Paragraph 2: The benefits mentioned in the previous paragraph will be financed through contributions from active and nonactive public servants, retired public servants, and other resources.

Paragraph 3: Complementary laws may establish exceptions to the provisions in Clause III, "a" and "c", in case of activities considered arduous, unhealthy, or hazardous.

Paragraph 4: The length of public, federal, state, or municipal services will be computed as a whole for the purpose of retirement and availability for duty.

Paragraph 5. Retirement benefits will be reviewed in the same proportion and on the same date as that on which the overall review established in Article 37, Clause X, refers.

Paragraph 6. The amount of death benefit shall correspond to the salary or pension of the deceased public servant, up to the limit established by law, observing the provisions mentioned in the previous paragraph.

Paragraph 7. On no account will a pension surpass the salary earned before retirement. Limits mentioned in Article 37, Clause XI, will also be applied to pensions."

"Article No. 41. Public servants appointed as a result of public competition will acquire tenure:

I - After two years in office, when occupying posts in the fields of public security, diplomacy, law, public defense, internal and external tax control, collection and supervision of tax collection and social contributions, as well as other government posts mentioned in a complementary law;

II. After 10 years in office, in the following cases;...

Paragraph 3: If a position is abolished or declared superfluous, a tenured public servant will remain in remunerated, available status according to his tenure until he can be appropriately used in another position.

Paragraph 4: Public employees without tenure will not be fired without reason. In the event of dismissal, severance pay will be paid proportional to the period of time they worked and according to the law."

"Article 42:...

Paragraph 10: The provisions in Article 40, Paragraphs 1, 2, 5, 6, and 7 apply to the public servants affected by this article and to their pensioners;..."

"Article 52:...

VII. To make provisions above the ceilings and conditions of external and internal credit operations acquired by the Union, the States, the Federal District, and the Municipalities, their autonomous entities or foundations, and other entities controlled by the government;..."

Article 102:...

I. ...

(r) Lawsuits tried by any court which must be taken to a higher court at the request of the national prosecutor or

the attorney general when there is immediate danger of serious damage to public order, health, security, or finances, or to suspend the effects of the decision made by court and take the case to a higher court;..."

"Article 154:...

III. Taxes on the distribution of liquid and gaseous fuels, whose revenue will be used exclusively for the construction, preservation, and improvement of roads."

"Article 155:...

Paragraph 3: Except for the taxes dealt with in Subsection I (b) of the first portion of this article, or Articles 153 (I) and (II), 154 (III), and 156 (III), no other tax will be assessed on transactions relating to Brazilian electrical energy, liquid and gaseous fuels, or lubricants and minerals."

"Article 159:...

III. Thirty percent of the tax foreseen in Article 154 (III) is to be given to the States, Federal District, and Municipalities through an agreement.

Paragraph 1: For purposes of calculating the amount to be distributed according to what is foreseen in Subsection (I), the portion of the revenue from the tax on income and earnings of any kind paid by the Union, its foundations, autonomous entities belonging to the Union, the States, the Federal District, or the Municipalities pursuant to the provision in Articles 157 (I) and 158 (I), shall be excluded;..."

"Article 167:...

Paragraph 4: The exception mentioned in Subsection (IV) must also be applied to the taxes referred to in Articles 155 and 159, if they are used to guarantee or compensate debts with the Union."

"Article 170:...

IX. Favorable treatment for small Brazilian capitalized companies;..."

"Article 171. A Brazilian company is considered to be one that was constituted under Brazilian laws and whose head and administrative office is in Brazil."

"Article 173:...

Paragraph 1: Public corporations, mixed-economy firms, or other entities that engage in economic activities are subject to the same distinctive legal regime as private companies, including aspects relating to cases of composition with creditors and bankruptcy, as well as labor and tax obligations.

"Article 176:...

Paragraph 1: The prospecting for and the mining of mineral resources and the utilization of the potentials referred to in the introductory paragraph of this article may be carried out only with the authorization or concession of the Union, granted in the national interest, pursuant to law that establishes specific conditions when such activities take place in the territory along the nation's borders or on Indian lands;..."

"Article 177: The Union has a monopoly over the following:

I. The prospecting for and the working of deposits of petroleum, natural gas, and other liquid hydrocarbons.

II. The conversion, reconversion, enrichment, reprocessing, and industrial use of nuclear ores and minerals and products thereof.

Single Paragraph: The law shall make provision for the transportation and utilization of radioactive materials within the national territory."

"Article 192:...

Paragraph 3: In the interest of the community, independent of the complementary law referred to in this article, National Treasury fiscal officials, within their jurisdiction and when expressly authorized by the minister of state, will receive full information to identify taxpayers and their situation before the tax administration, remaining responsible for their secrecy on pain of the law."

"Article 199:...

Paragraph 4: The law shall provide the conditions and requirements to facilitate the removal of human organs, tissues, and other substances for transplant, research, and treatment, as well as the collection and transfusion of blood, and any type of commercialization is forbidden."

"Article 207: Universities will enjoy autonomy in didactical-scientific, administrative, financial management, property, and human resources matters, observing the principle of inseparability between education, research, and extension.

Paragraph 1: Public universities will be entities with their own legal status.

Paragraph 2: Of the funds earmarked for education, the Union will make fixed allotments for the universities, which will handle their expenditures of their active and inactive personnel and their pensioners.

Paragraph 3: A maximum of 80 percent of the public universities' budgets may be earmarked for personnel expenditures.

Paragraph 4: Exercising their autonomy, public universities may admit foreigners under the same conditions applicable to Brazilians.

Paragraph 5: The authorization mentioned in the preceding paragraph will include public entities and organizations involved in scientific, cultural, and technological research and development."

Article 2: Until 31 December 1993, funds will be earmarked, by law, for public investment programs and for refinancing the debts mentioned in Paragraph 1 of this article and for debts incurred by the Federal District and the respective indirect administration organizations and entities including enterprises directly or indirectly controlled by them, with the exception of state electric energy concessionaires:

I - The funds mentioned in Clause III of Article 159 will be earmarked for the States and the Federal District;

II - Up to 40 percent of the funds mentioned in the introductory paragraph of Article 239 will be earmarked for the States and the Federal District, observing the provisions of Paragraph 1 of Article 239 as a guideline for earmarking the remaining 60 percent of the available funds;

III - Up to 80 percent of the total deductions for investment of the National Integration Program (PIN) and the Land Redistribution and Agricultural-Livestock Incentive Program for the Northeast and North (PROTERRA) may be allocated to those States where the mentioned programs are being implemented;

IV - Twenty percent of the funds that are mentioned in Paragraph IV of Article 158 of the Constitution.

Paragraph 1: The debts that were contracted before 30 June 1991 with public federal financial institutions, with the federal government, with the Central Bank of Brazil, with the National Institute of Social Security (INSS), and with the Unemployment Compensation Fund (FGTS) will be refinanced. The debts that result from the sale of state public debt notes and from foreign credit operations also will be refinanced.

Paragraph 2: The apportionment of the funds mentioned in Clauses I, II, and III of this article will be proportional to the respective coefficient of participation of the States and of the Federal District in the State and Federal District Participation Fund (FPE).

Paragraph 3: The federal government is hereby empowered to withhold the funds mentioned in Clauses I, II, and III of this article, and to use them to repay these credits.

Article 3: The Union is hereby empowered to levy, through a regular law, a tax on borrowers' profits stemming from the elimination of their remaining debts through the cancellation of house financing contracts.

Single Paragraph: The tax mentioned in this article will be levied on the profits for contracts in force on the date of publication of the law that creates the tax.

Article 4: The rule provided for in Paragraph 6 of Article 195 shall apply to the taxes that were levied or modified before 31 December 1992, based on the terms of this amendment, or in keeping with the tax reform to be proposed by the executive branch.

Article 5: The terms of Paragraph 1 of Article 173, referring to bankruptcies and the payment of liabilities, shall come into force one year after the promulgation of this amendment.

Article 6: Up until 31 December 1993, the terms of Article 157, Paragraphs I and II of Article 158, Articles 159, 169, 212, and Paragraph I of Article 239 of the Constitution shall not apply to the funds corresponding to the absolute growth of federal tax revenues, following deductions for currency devaluation.

Single Paragraph: The increase referred to in this article will be used exclusively to service the debts that stem from credit operations for which the Union is directly or indirectly responsible.

Article 7: The Legislative Assemblies of States shall adjust their constitutions to the terms of this constitutional amendment within 90 days of its approval.

Article 8: The Union, the States, the Federal District, and the Municipalities will, within 90 days, approve—in their respective jurisdictions—the law mentioned in Paragraph 1 of Article 40.

[Signed] Fernando Collor de Mello

Funai Inspection Team Ambushed in Roraima

PY0710115691 Brasilia Radio Nacional da Amazonia Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Sidney Ferreira Possuelo, president of the National Indian Foundation [Funai], reported yesterday afternoon that a group of armed gold prospectors ambushed a Funai inspection team consisting of three experts, four Federal Police agents, and one Indian.

The team was ambushed as it was attempting to inspect a landing strip known as New Brazil in the (Parafuri) region, north of (Surupucu) in Roraima State.

Funai expert Francisco Medina and Federal Police agent Paulo de Assis Montalvao were wounded during the attack. Montalvao's life is in danger and he has been hospitalized at the Colonel Matos hospital in Boa Vista.

The Funai president said that 30 more Federal Police agents will be sent this week to Roraima to intensify the drive to force gold prospectors out of the Ianomami Indian reservation.

[Begin Possuelo recording] We are going to intensify the operation by sending reinforcements. The Federal Police and Funai will both immediately send reinforcements to the area. [end recording]

Possuelo charged that several government and nongovernment groups in Roraima State oppose the withdrawal of gold prospectors from the Ianomami territory. He said that Roraima state-owned radio stations broadcast coded messages calling for an armed attack against the Funai inspection team.

Police Director Refutes Occupation of Amazonas

PY0410194491 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Report by Antonio Carlos Silva from Brasilia]

[Text] Federal Police Director Romeu Tuma told today the Commission for Congressional Investigation, CPI, which is investigating the internationalization of the Amazon Region, that sovereignty over the region is unquestionable.

According to Tuma, a Federal Police investigation showed no evidence that foreigners have no other interest in the region but to preach their religion. Tuma added that the government is making it more difficult for religious missions to remain in the region.

[Begin Tuma recording] Within its capacity, the Federal Police has investigated more than 21 religious entities [words indistinct] no evidence that there is any other interest but to preach their religion to the Indian communities in the northern region.

Another [words indistinct] meetings held over the last two years with Itamaraty, it is becoming more difficult for missionaries willing to settle in the northern region to obtain temporary visas. Unless the objectives of those who want to settle in the region for a few years are made clear, the visas are not granted. [end recording]

Despite current control over the region, Romeu Tuma said that there must be permanent surveillance and that charges must be investigated.

Domestic Production Grows During Second Quarter

PY0810231491 Brasilia Voz do Brasil Network in Portuguese 2200 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Summary] According to the IBGE [Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics], gross domestic production grew 7.77 percent from the first to the second quarter of this year.

Chile

Policies With Coalition Partners Discussed

PY0810155391 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Socialist Party President Jorge Arrate said that the president of the Republic believes that the coalition parties must participate more actively in the dissemination of government work and achievements. Arrate added that Aylwin also believes that the coalition parties should participate in the country's political debate more often.

Arrate spoke after a working luncheon that was attended by the president and ruling coalition representatives:

[Begin recording] I am very satisfied, as always when I talk with the president, because I think this government employs very open, very frank dialogue. The president heard our criticisms with an open mind and today during the luncheon it was our turn to receive the criticism of the president with an open mind. It is a great quality of this government that were are able to exchange opinions in such a frank and friendly manner. [end recording]

Christian Democratic Party President Andres Zaldivar agreed with Arrate. He said that the second stage of this administration will require the government, and all the parties that support it, to show more consistency and efficiency when formulating policies. Zaldivar added that coalition parties asked President Aylwin for more fluid relations:

[Begin recording] The president and coalition representatives talked about the need to become closer to the people during the second stage of this administration. This is because the municipalities are in the hands of designated mayors. We are not accusing anyone in particular, we are accusing the institutions. This system has caused a separation between government and the people. We will resolve that problem with the municipal elections next year. [end recording]

Asked about possible changes in Aylwin's cabinet, Zaldivar said that the issue was not discussed during the luncheon. He concluded: This is the exclusive prerogative of the president, besides, no one even mentioned anything about changes in the cabinet or in any government position.

Interest Payments in Letelier Case Disputed

PY0810164591 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Report by Alejandro Machuca, all figures as heard]

[Excerpts] The Chilean Government will not pay interest on the indemnity that has been requested by the U. S. Government for the relatives of [former Chilean foreign minister] Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffitt, his secretary. The U.S. Government has requested $14 million.

The so-called Bryan Committee was established in Washington on 3 October. The Chilean and U.S. Governments can appeal to this committee, which acts as a kind of court, to resolve any controversy that cannot be resolved through diplomatic channels. This particular episode concerns the indemnity that the Chilean Government has promised to pay the relatives of the late Orlando Letelier and Ronni Moffit, his secretary.

The Bryan Committee will establish the amount of the indemnity but the U.S. Government has already sued for $14 million. This amount has taken the Chilean defense by surprise.

[Begin unidentified speaker recording] The sum they are requesting is very high irrespective of how terrible the

crime, which was allegedly perpetrated by Chilean Government agents, may have been. It is high if one compares it to the bill on indemnities for missing people which the government submitted to Congress and which according to the newspapers I have read totals 8 billion Chilean pesos.

The Chilean Government will pay a total of 8 billion pesos to all the relatives of the missing people in Chile. No matter how honorable their cause may be, it is incongruous that just two families should receive 5 billion Chilean pesos. [end recording] [passage omitted].

It is understood that the Bryan Committee will issue a final decision in January 1992. Only then will we know how much the Chilean Government will have to pay because the ruling of the Bryan Committee cannot be appealed.

Minister Rules Out Possibility of Honecker Trip

PY0810143091 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Excerpt] Enrique Correa, minister secretary general of government, said that deposed former GDR President Erich Honecker has pending matters with the German Government and, therefore, cannot enter Chile.

Correa thus ruled out the possibility that the former Communist leader, who is isolated in a hospital in the Soviet Union, could spend his last days in Chile near his daughter Sonya, who lives in southern Chile with her Chilean husband.

The minister made it clear, however, that Margot Honecker, wife of the former GDR president, who arrived in Chile on 5 October, has the right to stay as a tourist because she carries a passport given to her by the German Government. Correa added that Mrs. Honecker wished to join her family in Chile, where her daughter and grandchildren live, but stressed that she will have to resolve her pending problems with the German Government. [passage omitted]

Upcoming Labor Movement Elections Analyzed

PY0810185091 Santiago Radio Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Christian Democratic Party militant Manuel Bustos and Socialist Party militant Arturo Martinez are the most serious presidential candidates for the powerful United Labor Federation, CUT. The CUT will hold a special congress and elect a new executive board between 28 and 30 October in the resort town of Punta del Talca. The inauguration will be in Santiago's Municipal Theater. After the ceremony, delegates will travel to the ocean resort.

What is the significance of this congress for the Chilean labor movement?

A lot. First, it will be the first time different forces will compare their strength since the advent of the democratic government headed by Patricio Aylwin. The congress will define labor policies for the next few years and will establish the workers' true priorities in this new social and cultural opening. It will also be a test for new and old leaders.

Current CUT President Manuel Bustos has said that it is necessary to clean the chimney and promote new faces in the labor movement. It is clear, however, that his leadership could be extended to 1994, and perhaps—and I am not suggesting anything—his term will end just in time for congressional elections that year. Bustos' leadership is indisputable within the labor movement and he carries a lot of weight among workers at a time of deciding about the labor movement's leadership.

The Christian Democratic Party and the Socialist Party—in this labor scenario—appear to be the major forces in the election. Socialist Party representative Arturo Martinez won a very important point in the mind of workers and the media when he led the labor movement's historic negotiations with entrepreneurs. On occasion he has been accused of an excessive desire to be conspicuous, to take the leading role. In fact, Martinez will be someone to be dealt with during the upcoming election.

According to old labor hands, there will be a first round when all candidates will run on their own. Then there will be pacts to single out the executive board that will lead the CUT.

The Communist Party has tried to play a leading role, but it could not muster enough support. The appearance of two labor parties such as the Workers Party and the Labor Autonomy Movement have not convinced Socialists, Christian Democrats, and other coalition partners that they have the solution to labor problems. Coalition members have a majority within the CUT. According to old labor leaders, the structure of the movement will not change much after the congress.

This congress will not only renew the leadership, it will also establish the bases for a strong, independent movement capable of defending workers' rights without forgetting their commitment with the development of this newly born democracy.

Banished Political Prisoner Leaves for Belgium

PY0810174191 Santiago Television Nacional de Chile Network in Spanish 0030 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] The first political prisoner to accept the commutation of sentence for banishment abroad obtained his freedom today when he left for Europe. The decree was signed by the government and cleared by the office of the comptroller general.

The decision was reported today through a communique issued by the Command of Political Prisoners on Fast.

The communique states that prisoner Jorge Donoso was banished from Chile through a government decree. Donoso was serving his sentence at the former public jail building. He left his place of confinement today at 0700 for Belgium.

According to Deputy Andres Aylwin, Donoso had requested that his sentence be commuted to banishment abroad. He said:

[Begin recording] The pardon consists of either commuting a sentence to banishment inside Chilean territory; reducing the prison term; or commuting a sentence to banishment abroad. [end recording]

Andres Aylwin explained that the third alternative can be applied for those political prisoners—about 20 of them—who face a more complex legal situation.

[Begin recording] There are some prisoners who, despite the government's willingness to commute their sentence to banishment inside Chilean territory, have chosen to go abroad. They have chosen this because they will have visas; they believe they can find good jobs there, and they feel discriminated against inside Chile. [end recording]

In view of this, Enrique Correa, secretary general of government, held a luncheon today at La Moneda with the ambassadors of different European countries to discuss the enforcement of this legal alternative.

Ministry Sources Report Legislator's Actions

PY0310152291 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Excerpt] The presence of a Chilean legislator, along with a group of people, at a border point that will be subject to international arbitration has created concern in official Argentine circles.

Foreign Ministry sources said yesterday that official Argentine circles, nevertheless, considered this gesture an individual action that does not affect relations.

According to the sources, Deputy Antonio Horvath went to the Laguna del Desierto area with some journalists and friends. They took some photographs and did some filming. [passage omitted]

Political Groups Announce Lagos Candidacy

PY3009161091 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1030 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Jose Antonio Viera-Gallo, the Chamber of Deputies president and a member of the PPD [Party for Democracy] Political Commission and the PS [Socialist Party] Central Committee, said that [Education Minister] Ricardo Lagos will be the candidate that both the PPD and the PS will present for the 1993 presidential elections.

Viera-Gallo indicated that, for the time being, no other candidates are being considered, at least within these two leftist parties. [passage omitted]

PDC Presidential Candidates Support Frei

PY0110014291 Santiago LA TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 29 Sep 91 p 11

[Excerpt] Deputy Gutenberg Martinez resigned on 28 September as a candidate for president of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] and decided to run for vice president on the list headed by Senator Eduardo Frei.

No decision has yet been made on the name of the PDC secretary, who will also be directly elected in PDC internal elections scheduled for 23 November.

PDC Senator Mariano Ruiz-Esquide adopted the same position, saying that he was ready to join Frei's executive board if he was asked to do so.

Meanwhile, Narciso Irureta has announced in Ancud his decision to continue as a PDC presidential candidate until the day of the elections. [passage omitted]

Carabineros Arrest Lautaro Youth Activists

PY0810152791 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Excerpt] The Carabineros Metropolitan Division confirmed the arrest of four members of the Lautaro Youth Movement who are suspected of several crimes including the murder of three Carabineros.

Colonel Roberto Metre held a news conference to report this arrest.

[Begin recording] Carabineros Intelligence Department personnel arrested the following people on 4 October: Juan Manuel Aliste Vega, 18; Luis Hernan Aliste Salinas, 40; Francisco Jose Linares Ulloa, 18; and Juan Sebastian Linares Ulloa, 19.

During raids on the homes of Salinas and Vega, Carabineros personnel found a Smith and Wesson .32 caliber revolver; two German-made A723 .22 caliber revolvers; two homemade sawed-off shotguns; two unfinished homemade shotguns; a lot of ammunition; components for explosive devices; and documents of the Lautaro Youth Movement terrorist organization. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Guerrilla Group Tries To Air Proclamation

PY0410230391 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 1700 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Civilian police and Carabineros personnel are looking for three men and one woman who raided this morning the local office of the AFP news agency at 316 Bernardo O'Higgins Avenue.

According to information collected at the site, the raiders carried firearms with which they threatened journalists and other people at the time of the attack. They demanded, or at least asked, the news agency personnel to disseminate a proclamation on behalf of the Poor People's Guerrilla Army. The raiders did not accomplish their mission and left the news agency after a few minutes.

Police personnel are currently investigating and identification sketches of the perpetrators of the raid are being drawn.

Colombia

Reported Changes in Foreign Ministry Confirmed

PA0810145991 Santa Fe de Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] The reports that Radio Cadena Nacional have issued recently regarding changes in the Colombian Foreign Ministry have been confirmed, completely confirmed.

Alfonso Lopez Caballero will be the new foreign minister. He will replace Luis Fernando Jaramillo. Currently, Lopez Caballero is Colombia's ambassador to Paris. He will be replaced at the Paris embassy by Alvaro Gomez Hurtado.

Christian Toro, a well-known advertising consultant who is president of Toro Advertising, will be Colombia's consul in New York. He will be replacing Luis Toro, who will be ambassador to Thailand.

It has been confirmed also that former Colombian Defense Minister General Oscar Botero Restrepo is Colombia's new ambassador to Portugal.

It is possible, this has not been confirmed, that Foreign Minister Jaramillo, who will leave his post after the congressional elections, will be Colombia's new ambassador to the United Nations in New York.

Government, CNGSB Attempt To Resume Talks

PA0810235491 Santa Fe de Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 0000 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Eight days after the attack staged against Senate candidate Aurelio Iragorri, the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNGSB] directly referred to the incident for the first time, denying any involvement whatsoever by the FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] and by the ELN [Army of National Liberation]. Nevertheless, security forces have evidence that the attack was staged by a guerrilla group, while the government continues to demand forceful condemnation of terrorist activity.

This morning, Former President Alfonso Lopez Michelsen held extensive talks with CNGSB spokesmen in an obvious attempt to establish a rapprochement between the government and the guerrillas.

The CNGSB and the government, estranged for over a week, are looking for ways to reconcile. Two Communist Party members and the international observers Emilio Figueredo and (?Maurice Zacherman) are helping on one side, while on the other, the Advisory Commission, Former President Lopez Michelsen, and Alvaro Leyva, among others are bringing about a climate of rapprochement. These informal encounters, expected to be numerous this week, could trigger some course of action, according to the government and guerrilla negotiators, although there are some obstacles to be faced:

First, there is interest in the elections. In light of the upcoming elections, one must not rule out the possibility that the Caracas negotiations will be used for political advantage. That possibility diminishes the credibility of the different actors in this rapprochement effort.

Second, the guerrillas have internal problems. Their will for peace is not all that clear; there are persistent differences among them that make any form of commitment on their part as a group difficult.

Third, the guerrillas have problems communicating with all of its fronts.

Fourth, the ELN dissident socialist renovation group is attempting to sit down at the negotiating table on equal terms with the CNGSB. The government has not taken into consideration separate negotiations with this group, unless definite actions are taken, such as demobilization. Nevertheless, the government negotiators have ruled out resorting to the alternative of divide and conquer, even though the CNGSB fears that internal erosion is an ongoing process.

Jaramillo Comments on UN, Other Topics

PY0410213491 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 1 Oct 91 p 26

[Interview with Foreign Minister Luis Fernando Jaramillo by Pablo Ceron in New York; date not given]

[Text] [Ceron] What do you expect of the UN General Assembly regarding the new international world order?

[Jaramillo] We wish the new international world order, which is still not completely consolidated or precisely defined, will fully develop at the United Nations. We want to introduce a series of initiatives that we consider very important, including the strengthening of the General Secretary's office (the United States has presented a proposal in this respect) and the democratization of the Security Council. We want the nations of the world to become more relevant. It is time for the United Nations to change and democratize, as is occurring in other parts of the world.

[Ceron] When you talk about democratizing the Security Council, are you referring to the veto power of the five permanent members?

[Jaramillo] Yes. The fact that permanent members have veto power gives them a clear preeminence in the Security Council. They are the predominant factor in many decisions involving world peace and security, while other nations, which might be affected by the problem, have a secondary role.

[Ceron] Colombia is a Rio Group member country. Do you consider the group to be a valid alternative to deal with Latin American problems?

[Jaramillo] The Rio Group is useful for political coordination and concentration, but it is not strong in economics or other areas. The Rio Group is increasingly becoming the forum for coordinating policies in the continent. It is where continental policies are discussed and where Latin America seeks to coordinate efforts on aspects affecting the southern hemisphere.

[Ceron] Do member countries have a common position on the Cuban situation?

[Jaramillo] All of Latin America is interested in the Cuban question due to historic reasons, reasons which unite us with Cuba. But the Rio Group has not discussed the issue yet. We think the American Continent cannot be indifferent to Cuba.

[Ceron] Has the Rio Group discussed the Cuban petition to the General Assembly regarding the U.S. economic blockade?

[Jaramillos] Not yet, despite the importance of the issue. But I do not rule out an exchange of ideas seeking a world consensus on the issue.

[Ceron] What is the Colombian position regarding what is happening in Cuba?

[Jaramillo] We would like to see the winds of democracy, and the experiences around the world today, find an autonomous expression in Cuba. We would like to see changes developing in accordance with the Cuban people's thought and wishes.

[Ceron] How does your country interpret the Argentine withdrawal from the nonaligned group?

[Jaramillo] My country believes that the Nonaligned Movement continues to be a very important Third World forum. We believe this movement has an important role to play in the new international world order. We are sure that the voice of nonaligned countries will continue to be essential in a new world order. Colombia believes that it must stay in the movement. We respect the Argentine Government position and the reasons given by the Argentine foreign minister for its withdrawal.

[Ceron] The Salvadoran Government and guerrillas announced a peace agreement a few days ago. Does Colombia expect to negotiate a peace agreement with the Simon Bolivar National Guerrilla Coordinating Board soon?

[Jaramillo] There are deep differences between the two processes. We expect our negotiations to succeed in a relatively short time. El Salvador has been negotiating for a very long time. Their negotiations matured and ended in an agreement between the Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front and the government. We are still in the preliminary stages. I think we still need to know each other and exchange proposals.

[Ceron] Your country experiences guerrillas and narcoterrorist violence. Will the United Nations debate this point?

[Jaramillo] The problem of narcoterrorism has not yet been analyzed at the UN General Assembly or the Rio Group. Colombia was able to overcome many problems created by the narcoterrorists who whipped our country in the past. Today most terrorist leaders are in Colombian or U.S. jails. We have been very successful in this area recently. This year Colombia seized more cocaine than the rest of the world together, something like 60 tonnes. We have destroyed huge amounts of chemical precursors and armaments that came from industrialized countries. Colombia is committed to fight drug trafficking. We would like to see similar commitments in northern countries.

[Ceron] The Medellin Cartel greatly reduced its participation in the drug trade following Medellin Cartel boss Pablo Escobar's surrender. But did not the Cali Cartel occupy the vacancy?

[Jaramillo] We are continuing the repressive process with the same determination as in the past. Narcoterrorism and violence linked to drugs were centered in the Medellin Cartel. As far as we know the Cali Cartel has not encouraged the same level of violence. We wish to totally eradicate drug trafficking in Colombia.

Security Increases After Local Officials Killed

PA0810210291 Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1200 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Santa Fe de Bogota—Security organizations and authorities have increased security measures to protect political leaders after a Boyaca Conservative Party leader and a Cali Liberal Party alderman were murdered by alleged guerrillas and hired killers, respectively.

Authorities reported that a former Narino governor and the mayor of Meseta, Meta Department, escaped uninjured after attacks on them.

According to the authorities, alleged guerrillas kidnapped, tortured, and killed Luis Eduardo Riano, a Conservative Party leader of northern Boyaca. It was reported that the conservative leader attended a political

meeting presided over by senate candidate Juan B. Perez at El Moran Trail, Chita Municipality. Riano was reportedly invited there by guerrillas who had infiltrated the meeting, and he attended, presumably, to talk with guerrilla commanders in the region.

Ecuador

Hour of Silence To Protest Government Action

PA0910010191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2031 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Quito, 8 Oct (EFE)—Ecuadoran radio stations will remain silent for one hour on 9 October to protest last week's government shut down of Radio Sucre.

The government of social democratic President Rodrigo Borja banned the resumption of broadcasts by this radio station, the frequency of which reverted to the state over a year ago.

The protest was announced today by the Ecuadoran Association of Radio Broadcasters (AER), which includes most of the country's radio stations.

The stoppage will take place from 1200 to 1300 (1700 to 1800 GMT) and will coincide with the military parade to commemorate the 171st anniversary of the independence of Guayaquil, the most populated city in Ecuador.

Radio Sucre, owned by rightist Deputy Vicente Arroba, resumed its broadcasts on 2 October, protected by a parliamentary amnesty that the government has disavowed.

The radio continued to broadcast despite the government's ban and warning and even after the police had locked the doors. The directors of the radio station ripped off the locks from the transmitters, relay stations, and offices in both Quito and Guayaquil.

The frequencies of Radio Sucre, which are owned by the state, like all radio frequencies in the country, although they are managed by private citizens, were taken away from Arroba in August 1990 after the legislator said on one of his programs that relatives of President Borja were profiting from the sale of weapons to the Armed Forces.

Borja then gave Arroba five days to present evidence of his charge before the courts. When he failed to do so, Borja ordered that the frequencies be returned to the state.

The radio frequencies were granted last week to the School of Journalism of the Central University at Quito and to the Army Polytechnical Institute in Guayaquil.

Paraguay

Military Officers To Retire, Says President

PY0810232891 Asuncion NOTICIAS in Spanish 6 Oct 91 p 5

[Excerpts] President Andres Rodriguez also confirmed yesterday that he is aware of a note presented by General Antonio Rojas Ortiz, in which he asks for retirement from the permanent Armed Forces cadre. The president also announced that by the end of this year many generals and colonels will go into retirement "in order to give way to young military men." [passage omitted]

When he was told precisely that by the end of this year the Military Promotion Board will meet, as it does every year, to send some generals and colonels into retirement, Rodriguez admitted this point. He mentioned that the Military Promotion Board is already scheduled to meet during the first half of November and then the rules and regulations on officers statutes will be applied.

Rodriguez said: "Many generals and colonels who have reached the age limit, that is, their service time, must go into retirement and also give way to young military men."

Removal of Stroessner Statue Causes Incident

PY0910021091 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 8 Oct 91 p 11

[Excerpt] The meeting this morning between President Andres Rodriguez and Asuncion Mayor Carlos Filizzola was positive.

Accepting an invitation from President Rodriguez yesterday afternoon, Filizzola went to see him in his office in Government House, and after a long conversation it was announced that the statue of former dictator Alfredo Stroessner, located in the "Monument to Victorious Peace" on top of Lambare Hill, definitely will be removed. (The task was immediately carried out).

As is public knowledge, there was a great commotion yesterday afternoon at the statue when municipal officials clashed with police and soldiers as they tried to remove Stroessner's statue.

After his meeting with the president, Filizzola answered questions from journalists accredited in Government House. He commented on his conversation with the president and expressed his formal protest over yesterday's incidents. "The president has told me that today at 0700 he ordered the withdrawal of the military group that was guarding the hill and the monument," the Asuncion mayor said.

"He also excused himself for the incident yesterday, that is, he excused himself in the Armed Forces' name for what happened," he added.

Filizzola also said that Rodriguez had told him he was "sorry" about the situation and that "he also does not agree with any kind of violent situation."

Obeying Rodriguez' orders, the military is no longer guarding the site that Filizzola said is under municipal jurisdiction.

When once again explaining the reasons for which Stroessner's statue should "disappear," Filizzola said that beside the well-known legal reasons, "it is a wish of the citizenry that thinks the Stroessner statue was a symbol that does not deserve to be in this place in current times. We are acting in the name of the citizenry that does not want and rejects this kind of monument, much less a monument to a living person in a fascist fashion imposed on us by the Stroessner dictatorship. [passage omitted]

Peru

Andean Group Urges Settlement of Border Dispute

PY0910015191 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0109 GMT 9 Oct 91

[Text] Bogota, 8 Oct (ANDINA-ANSA)—The Bolivian, Colombian, and Venezuelan Governments today made an appeal to the Ecuadoran and Peruvian Governments to seek a peaceful solution to their dispute in order to safeguard unity and peace in the region.

The declaration was sponsored and disclosed here today by the Colombian Government in its capacity as temporary secretariat of the Andean Group.

The declaration was issued a few hours after Ecuador and Peru agreed on a 10-day period to try to reach an agreement to ease tensions in the disputed border region.

The following is the text of the declaration:

"The Governments of Bolivia, Colombia, and Venezuela have witnessed, with great concern, the tense atmosphere that prevails between Ecuador and Peru.

"In their capacity as friends of the two countries, the three governments wish to point out the great importance that the preservation of a climate of peace and confidence in the subregion has for the integration process, and urge the Governments of Ecuador and Peru to solve this problem through the mechanisms established by international law and that they prevent growing tension from affecting the spirit of solidarity that should prevail among Cartagena Agreement members and, in general, among all the countries of our American continent.

"The Governments of Bolivia, Colombia, and Venezuela, in keeping with the commitments undertaken within the framework of the Andean Pact, express their desire to help Peru and Ecuador overcome their current dispute within a climate of political relaxation and peace."

Guarantors To Assess Dispute

PY0810203691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1916 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 8 Oct (ANDINA)—Brazilian Ambassador Raul Leite-Ribeiro announced today that at the request of the Peruvian and Ecuadoran Governments, the representatives of the Rio de Janeiro Protocol's guarantor countries will meet in the next few days to assess the alleged Peruvian-Ecuadoran border dispute.

U.S. Ambassador Anthony Quainton and Argentine Ambassador Juan Carlos Licastro Gimenez expressed their agreement with the announcement made by their Brazilian counterpart, noting that brotherhood and peace should prevail in the relationship shared by these two countries.

No Church Mediation

PA0810130491 Lima Radio Programas del Peru Network in Spanish 1800 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Vatican Spokesperson Joaquin Navarro reported that, for the time being, the Catholic Church is not considering mediating in the border dispute between Ecuador and Peru. This is a very serious problem that could deteriorate into an armed conflict, he added. Navarro said that the pope is always willing to mediate in border problems among countries whenever requested. In this case, however, the Peruvian Government did not accept the offer as it does not consider that there is danger with its neighboring country.

Ecuadoran President Rodrigo Borja suggested the idea of papal mediation in the border problem between Peru and Ecuador to Peruvian authorities, during his address to the UN General Assembly.

Border Group Meets To Evaluate Issues

PY0510005891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2257 GMT 3 Oct 91

[Text] Tacna, 3 Oct (ANDINA) — The permanent Joint Peruvian-Chilean Border Cooperation Sub-Commission met in Tacna to evaluate the agreements regarding the transit of persons between this city and Arica, the drug trafficking problem, smuggling, and health control.

Today the meeting was described as positive by Tacna's deputy mayor, who stated that it will serve to implement in a coordinated way the bilateral agreements approved in the previous meeting, such as the transit of persons after the safe conduct provision was extended to 12 months.

The Chilean delegation was headed by Luis Guitierrez, the governor of Arica, with the participation of Florencio Galleguillos, the Chilean consul in Tacna, the Carabineros prefect and sub-prefect, and the research chiefs of Chacalluta and of the agricultural-livestock services.

The Peruvian delegation was headed by Sub-Prefect Hermilio Hinojosa; Peruvian Consul in Arica Nicolas Roncagliolo; the departmental chief of the National Police; the security police chief; the technical police chief; the administrator of Tacna's Customs House; the director of agriculture; and the female director of Foptur [Tourism Promotion Fund].

Ashaninkans Freed From Shining Path Control

PY0810205491

[Editorial Report] Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish on 29 September 1991 publishes an article on how 10,000 Ashaninka Indians and peasants are starving and dying from various illnesses after escaping, thanks to self-organized and military operations, from the Shining Path, which completely controlled them for two years in the Ene Valley and the mouth of the Mantaro River. The 1,800-word article, prepared by the paper's Investigative Unit, is written by Francisco Reyes.

It states: "Cholera, tuberculosis, malnutrition, malaria, and leishmaniasis, among other illnesses, are affecting 8,000 Ashaninka Indians from Ene and the mouth of the Mantaro River. They currently have taken shelter on both sides of the Apurimac River in Ayacucho Department after escaping from Shining Path control."

"Two thousand additional Ashaninkas are in the same situation in Poyeni and Obenteni hamlets near the Tambo River, Satipo Province in Junin Department, where they have established their new homes after breaking ties with the Shining Path." The article continues: "Thousands of Indians and settlers started to free themselves from Shining Path control thanks to joint actions by the Army and peasant defense patrols in Apurimac Valley."

The article then continues to describe how the Shining Path took control of the region: "In May 1989, the Shining Path established several people's committees in the Ene and Tambo Valleys and at the mouth of the Mantaro River and proclaimed the establishment of a so-called New State. What then took place was nothing but the imposition of concentration camps where the Shining Path ruled with terror and death."

A delegation from Apurimac Valley that came to Lima to request national and international help made the following appeal: "The children are the main ones affected. Children die everyday of anemia. We appeal to the Peruvian people's solidarity. We have great needs. We need medicine, food, clothes, books, and notebooks for the children."

The New State was "under the command of Lino, the political-military leader of the Guerrilla Zone in the Ene and Mantaro River region and was ruled by strict work, discipline, and security patterns, which included sanctions such as death or hard labor."

The "masses," who were supervised by Maoist "foremen," had to provide food for the "grass-roots force, the local force, and the main force" of the so-called Popular Guerrilla Army of the Ene Guerrilla Zone. Each sector was controlled by the local force, which taught the masses to handle weapons and nonconventional war tactics. The foremen were elected by the Shining Path from among the masses, and they were responsible for all that happened in their respective towns.

Each local force had an average of 10 hamlets under its command while the main force was politically and militarily in charge of the entire population of Ene Valley.

The article continues: "About 60 teachers captured by the Shining Path were forced to give classes in the people's schools." The teachers would teach the children "to read and write with books that were handwritten by Shining Path leaders. Children and illiterate adults would receive daily lessons on ideology, politics, military training, the thoughts of President Gonzalo, and the documents of the latest Peruvian Communist Party congress."

The article then explains how the system began to collapse: "Despite the terrible political and military dictatorship under which the settlers lived, the Maoist regime crumbled a few weeks after the combined Army and peasant patrol forces entered the area and managed to rescue thousands of men, women, and children who were captured at gunpoint."

The article reports: "Military operations began on 12 May in Ene, Junin, Ayacucho, and Ucayali" under the command of General Luis Perez Document, commander of the Mantaro Front's 31st Infantry Division. "The Army previously had given 50 Ashaninka Army members from the Gran Pajonal area Winchester breech-loading rifles bought in Miami." The Army also organized Satipo residents. "Navy troops from Atalaya and Ucayali also joined the military offensive."

One of the delegation members that arrived in Lima described the battle: "The struggle was intense; the worst thing was that the Shining Path forced many of us to fight against our own people. However, many of them took the opportunity to escape and come with us. We are now free and we defeated the subversives."

BCCI-Linked Citizens Investigated by Ministry

PY0510231491 Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 28 Sep 91 p 4

[Report by James Aparicio]

[Excerpts] Panama—The Peruvian Interior Ministry has asked the Panamanian branch of Interpol to report on movements and alleged illegal activities or operations here by 16 Peruvian citizens presumably involved in the

scandal of the Bank of Commerce and Credit International (BCCI), which has a branch in Panama. The government intervened in the BCCI branch.

The list handed to Interpol includes the names of Leonel Figueroa; Luis Rodriguez Vildosola; Juan Candela Gomez de la Torre; Carlos Mimbela Capunay; Enrique Cornejo Ramirez; Luis Guiulfo Zender; Roz de Orbaum; Jorge Ortiz Ordonez; Hector Neyra Chavarri; Nelson Chack Koo; Cesar Ferrary Quine; Ramon Abasolo Adrianzen; Miguel Velasco Bosshard; Jose Luis Ramirez Llosa; Ana Maria Salhuana; and Manuel Estela Benavides. [passage omitted]

Two men on the list, Leonel Figueroa and Hector Neyra, have been formally sued in Peru for their alleged participation in a $3 million bribe that BCCI paid to have Peruvian Central Bank reserves deposited at BCCI. Figueroa and Neyra were the Central Bank president and general manager, respectively, between 1986 and 1987. [passage omitted]

Deputy Denounces Human Rights, Police Abuses

PY0510011891 Lima LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 24 Sep 91 p 21

[Report by Luis Velasquez Tagle]

[Excerpt] Huanuco—National Deputy Jorge Maldonado said yesterday that the situation in Leoncio Prado Province has become very bad and that human rights there are constantly violated. The deputy said that the attorney general's office has registered the disappearance of 14 people in Tingo Maria in only four months.

Deputy Maldonado, a member of the Congress Human Rights Sub-Committee, told LA REPUBLICA that the provincial attorney general's office received 14 formal reports of missing people in four months, revealing the serious living conditions of the residents of that area.

It is known that the attorney general's office has received more than 100 oral reports on missing people, but the office acts only when people submit formal reports.

"The attorney general's office makes a mistake in investigating only cases backed by formal reports. It never investigates on its own authority, as is its responsibility," the deputy said.

Maldonado said that Leoncio Prado police violate human rights when they take action against peasants without a prior investigation. "They arrest peasants based on oral reports. The police do not investigate whether the report is true or false," Maldonado said.

"No one can be arrested until proven guilty. A simple report against an individual is not enough for his arrest," the deputy said.

Jorge Maldonado admitted, however, that Provincial Prosecutor Herau Pitt Urdanivia has received death threats and his life and security cannot be guaranteed. [passage omitted]

Amazon Cooperation, Andean Integration Discussed

PY0810234691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1959 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 7 Oct (ANDINA)—The reconciliation of Amazon cooperation policies and the progress made in the bilateral plan for the Putumayo River Basin's integral development were analyzed during the second meeting of the consultative bilateral mechanism, held at the Peruvian Foreign Ministry, at the level of deputy foreign ministers from Colombia and Peru.

During the meeting, Colombian Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Rodrigo Garcia Pena met with Peruvian Secretary General Alejandro Gordillo Fernandez, who is also deputy foreign minister.

The two officials also analyzed topics related to bilateral cultural relations, periodic control of border markers, and trade. They mainly focused on matters linked to drug trafficking and progress made in the Andean integration process.

Gordillo expressed Peru's acknowledgement of Colombia's efficient work as the Rio Group coordinator. He pointed out the need to continue efforts to strengthen the permanent consultation mechanism and political agreement with its role as interlocutor for third countries and groups of countries.

They analyzed the international problems that are being analyzed by the UN General Assembly. They especially focused on the matter of human rights.

As should be remembered, the first meeting of the bilateral consultative mechanism at the level of deputy foreign ministers was in Bogota in 1990. Very good results were obtained in both meetings concerning the common positions on matters of mutual interest.

During his visit to Lima, the Colombian deputy minister gave a conference on Colombian foreign policy at the Peruvian diplomatic academy.

Government Accepts 70 Million Yen From Japan

PY0510215691 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1603 GMT 1 Oct 91

[Text] Lima, 1 Oct (ANDINA)—The government has accepted a 70 million-yen donation from the Japanese Government through the World Bank to finance technical assistance for social investment programs.

The Economy and Finance Ministry has been authorized to sign the donation agreement between Peru and the World Bank, in its capacity as administrator of the Japanese Government donation.

Foreign consultants and experts who, in compliance with the agreement, may render their services will be subject to the special requirements stipulated for them, in their capacity as members of an international organization.

The donation was accepted through Supreme Decree No. 231-91-EF, published in the Peruvian gazette today.

Businessmen Concerned About Terrorist Threats

PA0610144991 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2316 GMT 30 Sep 91

[Text] Lima, 30 Sep (EFE)—The Fifth Congress of the Private Sector concluded today. It reported that 47 percent of businessmen in Peru have received terrorist threats over the telephone or through the mail and that the attacks on 14,400 companies in the past eight years have resulted in a $72- million loss.

Moreover, a large number of businessmen admitted that they pay protection money in light of terrorist threats; 20 businessmen have been murdered and 4 percent have been kidnapped. Julio Favre, chairman of the Congressional Organization Committee, spoke on "The Private Sector's Commitment: Development and Security." He said that to pay protection money to subversives is a cowardly act. He urged his colleagues not to do so.

The businessmen, who count on a 100,000-men strong protection force from private security companies—larger than the police force—appeared concerned with the results of a recent poll that indicates that 13 percent of Peruvians justify subversion given the poverty affecting this Andean nation.

According to reports published today on the private sector's congress, 40 percent of the businessmen believe that political violence is caused by radical ideologies, social differences, and the political failures; however, they do not see any difference between subversion and terrorism.

Forty-six percent believe that the death penalty—which is only applied for high treason in times of war—should be used as an effective means to combat subversion.

Socialist Senator Enrique Bernales, chairman of the Peruvian Senate Peace Commission and the UN Human Rights Commission, reported on the attacks against the private sector. He explained that only 1.087 percent of Peruvian companies were able to collect on their insurance policies and the rest had to pay for their own repairs.

The businessmen criticized the "passiveness" of President Alberto Fujimori's government in combatting subversion; however, Fujimori has responded that slowly but surely, political violence is being overcome.

The weekly magazine CARETAS comments on the presidential statement noting that "one must see what the president means by the subversion's set-back because what all Peruvians perceive is an expansion on all fronts. Appalling statistics on the increase in political violence confirms this belief."

At the same private sector congress,reportedly in the 11-year conflict, the subversive war has resulted in the loss of 24,000 persons and has caused losses that amount to $20 billion.

CAF Grants Electroperu $20 Million Loan

PY0510221291 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1622 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] Lima, 2 Oct (ANDINA)—The Andean Development Corporation (CAF) has granted Electroperu [Peruvian State Electric Power Enterprise] a $20 million loan to implement part of a project to rehabilitate the Mantaro-Pisco 220-kilovolt transmission line and to purchase spare parts for future emergencies.

The government issued a decree granting the Peruvian state guarantee to Electroperu for signing the loan contract.

The loan conditions will be determined by the CAF and the National Bank.

Roundup of Terrorist Activities From 24-28 Sep

PY0510233091

[Editorial Report] Following are reports on terrorist activities in Peru compiled from Peruvian papers published between 24 and 28 September. Publication information is given in parentheses after each item.

About 50 hooded Shining Path terrorists, waving red cloths, on 23 September staged an attack at km 12 of the central highway, spreading stones and explosives along the road. The terrorists tried to create panic in the La Raucana shantytown, Vitarte District. Police arrested 20 subversives and seized a huge quantity of leaflets and explosives. (Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 24 Sep 91 pp A8-9)

Four high-tension towers were blown up, causing a blackout in Ayacucho. During the blackout a bomb exploded outside the house of Regional Health Director Manuel Perez Saenz. The explosion caused no injuries, only material damage. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 25 Sep 91 p A12)

One terrorist died during a clash between a subversive group and a military patrol. The incident occurred on 22 September in the township of Quillacocha, 8 km west of Cerro de Pasco. The other subversives escaped. Another subversive group broke into the Central Peru Mining Enterprise Labor Union headquarters in La Oroya, where they painted subversive slogans repudiating the workers' leadership. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 26 Sep 91 p A11)

On 25 September, terrorists burned and dynamited the vehicle of Jorge Abadie Linares deputy administrative

rector of the National Engineering School, and painted Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement slogans on the university walls. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Sep 91 p A13)

An Army captain died and three National Police members were wounded early on 25 September after an explosion on the Churin highway, which was mined by Shining Path terrorists. The incident occurred in Oyon Province, 130 km northeast of Huacho. (Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Sep 91 p A14)

Fifteen hooded terrorists attacked a rural installation in Lurigancho District, where they wounded one person and stole three revolvers, four shotguns, a large quantity of ammunition, and jewelry. (Madrid EFE in Spanish 1755 GMT 28 Sep 91)

Roundup of Rebel Activities From 29 Sep-4 Oct

PA0610184491

[Editorial Report] The following is a compilation of reports on rebel activities in Peru monitored by Panama Bureau between 29 September and 4 October.

Paris AFP in Spanish at 1801 GMT on 29 September carries a 620-word item reporting on Shining Path guerrillas sending death threats to several Lima shanty town community leaders who are organizing their respective communites against rebel actitives. According to the report, at least five community leaders have been killed since August, and approximately 20 have been forced to abandon their homes due to constant death threats.

Paris AFP in Spanish at 0527 GMT on 2 October, in a 210-word item, reports on military authorities reporting on 1 October that approximately 21 persons had been killed and 35 injured during a Shining Path guerrilla attack on an Army base in Satipo Province. According to the report, the attack took place during the early morning hours of 29 September. The report adds that 16 guerrillas, four civilians, and one army captain were killed.

Paris AFP in Spanish 2037 GMT on 4 October reports, in a 216-word item, on police authorities disclosing that a retired Army colonel had been ambushed and shot to death in Lima by alleged Shining Path guerrillas on 4 October. The same item reports on Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) guerrillas overtaking two radio stations located in the central region of Peru and carrying out propaganda activity. According to police analysts, this operation has been interpreted as a show of strength against Shining Path guerrillas who also operate in the area. Statistical figures released by the authorities reveal that in eleven years, guerrilla activities in Peru have resulted in the death of over 22,000 people.

Paris AFP in Spanish at 0433 GMT on 4 October, in a 210-word item, reports on military authorities in Ayacucho Department reported that 20 Shining Path activists deserted the group on 29 September and surrendered to peasant defense groups in the region. According to military authorities in the region, this is the second group that has decided to surrender in less than a month.

Uruguay

Ramos Expresses Pessimism on GATT Talks

PY051023409' Madrid EFE in Spanish 0141 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Montevideo, 3 Oct (EFE) — Uruguayan Agriculture and Fishing Minister Alvaro Ramos said on 3 October that he would prefer that the GATT Uruguay Round of talks fail rather than have a bad agreement that would maintain the distortions of international trade.

During a news conference, the minister added that this is the position of the countries that recently participated in the Inter-American Conference of Agriculture Ministers in Madrid.

Ramos said that in the face of the opposing positions of the efficient agricultural countries and, basically, the EC, "one has to start thinking the Uruguay Round may not close with an agreement that maintains current conditions."

The minister expressed his pessimism regarding a successful conclusion of the Uruguayan Round.

"I do not believe that there can be rapprochement between the positions before 31 December, the date when the round of talks ends," he added.

"It would be better if the talks continued and that the negotiation of other viewpoints continue in order to achieve a more long-term agreement, if this is possible, but one cannot sign something that will compromise our future," Ramos said.

Lithuanian Vice President Arrives for Visit

PY0810181391 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1816 GMT 7 Oct 91

[Text] Montevideo, 7 Oct (EFE)—Lithuanian Vice President Bronislavas Kuzmitskas said here today that his country's priorities after recovering its independence "are to privatize numerous companies and to strengthen political, trade, and cultural ties with all countries of the world."

Kuzmitskas began an official three-day visit today in Montevideo. He is scheduled to meet with President Luis Alberto Lacalle; Vice President Gonzalo Aguirre; Foreign Minister Hector Gros Espiell; and other Uruguayan Government officials. He is also scheduled to meet representatives of the Lithuanian community living in Uruguay.

Kuzmitskas said: "After recovering our independence, the situation in Lithuania is stable." He added that the

main goals of the Lithuanian Government are "to privatize companies and to strengthen our international ties."

Uruguay was one of the first countries to recognize and hail the independence of the Baltic Republics of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia.

Military Starts Reconciliation Process

PY0610001491 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1743 GMT 27 Sep 91

[Report by Juan Antonio de Lucas]

[Text] Montevideo, 27 Sep (EFE)—A few days ago the Uruguayan Armed Forces High Command started a reconciliation process with the political parties, after remaining practically isolated since the beginning of the dictatorship in 1973.

Although Uruguay returned to democracy about six years ago, which has allowed its institutions to resume their normal activities, the military regime (1973-1985) left traces and caused a division between the Armed Forces and civilians.

In fact, the military only agreed to a dialogue with the political parties to return to democracy after 60 percent of the population, in the 1980 plebiscite, rejected their staying in power.

The 1985 elections marked Uruguay's return to democracy and the military's return to the barracks, where they increased their self-isolation even more.

The military High Command only has spoken to answer charges of human right violations and to justify past acts of repression against what it calls "the fatherland's subversive enemies."

Army Commander Lieutenant General Guillermo de Nava last week, for the first time, expressed the Armed Forces' willingness to "hold a dialogue with all the country's political sectors."

This statement contributed to ease the tension sparked by the announcement a few days earlier by the current center-rightist government of a plan to encourage the voluntary and early retirement of Armed Forces officers.

Defense Minister Mariano Brito believes the pyramid command structure is deformed and that there are 360 high-ranking officers more than necessary for the Armed Forces to operate properly at this time of budget cuts.

The magazine SOLDADO, mouthpiece of the Military Center, complained in a recent editorial about the low salaries "that prevent the military from living a respectful life," and asserted that this measure is intended "to start the Armed Forces' self-destruction process."

However, the paragraph that stirred up the most polemic stated that the project reveals the "existence of an attack on the Armed Forces and the nation in their capacity as natural institutions that come before and above the very state and its Constitution."

The high-ranking military authorities are not against a dialogue with politicians of the traditional "Blanco" (center-rightist party currently in power) and the "Colorado" (liberal and main opposition force) parties but are greatly divided when it comes to deciding whether or not they should hold a dialogue with the Broad Front's Marxists.

This leftist coalition won the strategic Montevideo city hall during the November 1989 elections and became the third-strongest political force in the country with 20 percent of the vote, while recent polls show that the number of people who intend to vote for the Broad Front has increased significantly.

Last week Rear Admiral Elalio Moll, commander of the Uruguayan Navy's Sea Forces, broke the ice by personally meeting with Communist Deputy Leon Lev to inform him about the transfer of a floating dock from South Africa to Uruguay.

However, the desire for a dialogue coexists with drastic positions such as that of retired General Pedro Gonnet, who was elected president of the Military Center on 26 September. In Gonnet's opinion, "a dialogue with the Broad Front is unfeasible because the Communists and Tupamaros, who are enemies of the Armed Forces, belong to it."

Venezuela

Presidential Spokesman on Aristide Status, Plans

PA0810192891 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1757 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] Caracas, 8 Oct (EFE)—The deposed constitutional president of Haiti, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, will travel today to Santiago de Chile to participate in the 86th Assembly of the World Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), it was reported in Caracas by a Venezuelan Presidency spokesman.

Aristide accepted an invitation from Chilean President Patricio Aylwin to participate in the world political forum and talk about the situation in Haiti.

Even though the spokesman did not confirm the time of Aristide's departure from a Caracas hotel, where he is protected by members of the Venezuelan presidential guards, it was learned that following his visit to Chile, Aristide will again travel to the United States to attend an OAS meeting.

Aristide traveled from the United States to Caracas on 6 October and, following an interview with President Carlos Andres Perez, he went to Kingston—where he

met with Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley. Aristide returned to the Venezuelan capital on 7 October.

Aristide's meetings with Bush, Perez, and Manley dealt with his attempts to recover the Presidency following the coup d'etat which ousted him on 30 September.

The constitutional president of Haiti has established his "temporary residence" in Caracas.

While in Venezuela, he is granted the status of a head of state and is in permanent contact with presidents of other Latin American and Caribbean nations, and with the OAS.

A Venezuelan presidential spokesman said that Aristide's trip to Chile is part of the efforts to "isolate even more" the military who staged the coup in Haiti, and to emphasize to the world that the "only president" of that nation is the one elected in the December 1990 elections.

The 86th IPU Assembly was inaugurated on 6 October by Chilean President Patricio Aylwin. It is attended by 500 delegates from 111 countries, which will conclude their meetings on 11 October.

Aristide will use this international forum to report on the coup d'etat staged in his country, which resulted in dozens of deaths and sowed terror among the people in that nation, the poorest in Latin America.

Aristide raised the tone of his protests in recent hours, when it was learned that the Haitian military broke into the Senate building in Port-au-Prince on 7 October and forced its members to appoint a provisional president of the republic.

Political commentators have stated that this action complicates the situation even more, and it represents a challenge to the OAS, which strives to find a political and peaceful solution to the crisis.

Democratic Action Party Elects New Officials

PA0810185291 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 0002 GMT 8 Oct 91

[Text] On 9 October, the Democratic Action's [AD] electoral commission will swear in the new party officials that were elected on 4 October.

Calm and cordiality have returned to the party. After several hectic days with activities centered on internal elections, the focus is on political strategy again. The Operational and Executive Committees did not meet on 7 October. There were, however, isolated meetings, an indication that things have begun to be smoothed over, according to the leaders.

[Begin AD leader Hector Alonso Lopez recording] I think that at this time our fundamental task is to unite the party because the war is over. The party's white flag of peace has begun to wave. We should meet our future responsibilities with success. I think we should start by announcing a general amnesty in the party so those members who were isolated due to political disagreements can return to the organization. I am confident that fellow member Luis Alfaro Lucero will surely understand that his future success—as we all desire—as the party's secretary general will depend on our ability to coexist. [end recording]

In addition, Humberto Celli, the new AD president, elected by consensus, trusts that with the incorporation of 12 new members into the Central Executive Commission it will be able to reach an independent status. There is a juridical debate on who should be the party's third vice president, whether Cristobal Hernandez, who received the majority of the votes; or Paulina Gamuz—neither of which received 50 percent plus one of the votes. Celli made a proposal that apparently was generally accepted.

[Begin Celli recording] A legal solution is important, but I regard a political solution as even more important. The political solution I have presented to some of the party leaders is to accept the majority of the votes received by Hernandez. Gamuz, a very valuable member and one of the party's most intelligent females, should be executive political secretary to fill the vacancy left by fellow member Lewis Perez, who was elected national secretary for the organization. [end recording]

Anyway, the party will call for a meeting of the national board of directors where the amendment of the statutes will be discussed. The new national agrarian secretary is still to be designated because the election of Gabriel Pena Navas and Amilcar Aponte was challenged. The electoral commission should now report whether this challenge will stand or a new plenum is to be convened.

First Half Year Oil Industry Performance Report

PA0810193891 Caracas Venezolana de Television Network in Spanish 1550 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Venezuelan Petroleum, Incorporated [PDVSA] has achieved a positive balance in the first six months of 1991 in the production, exploration, and export areas. During that period, the Venezuelan petroleum industry sold over $6.6 billion worth of products abroad.

In the first six months of 1991, the national oil industry reached its highest production level since 1976: 2.3 million barrels per day of crude oil, 37,000 barrels of condensed oil, and 113,000 barrels of liquified natural gas.

Venezuela's production potential at the end of these first six months was 2.74 million barrels per day. Current exploitation amounts to only 85 percent of total production potential.

As for exports, 2.63 million barrels per day of oil were sold, including crude oil and byproducts, in the international markets. Through the month of July, Venezuela received an average price of $16.7 per barrel and, by

increasing its export volume, managed to obtain revenues of $6.6 billion, only $400 million less than PDVSA estimates.

[Begin Energy and Mines Minister Celestino Armas recording] The situation is beginning to improve for the second half of 1991. The worldwide trend is toward price recovery. Venezuela has made an initial adjustment to compensate for this, and we hope to reduce the gap to between $100 and $150 million less than what had been estimated. [end recording]

[Begin PDVSA President Andres Sosa Pietri recording] Investments in the first six months amounted to 97 percent of the original estimate of 217 billion [currency not specified] for the year. As for the amount allocated for improvements [revisado], 205.188 billion bolivars, 38 percent, has been spent, and that is six percent above the industry's historical average. [end recording]

The figures for the first six months of 1992 are being prepared, and contracts for exploiting those oil wells that were not fully exploited will be signed in the first three months of 1992. When these wells begin producing, Venezuela will increase its production by approximately 150,000 to 200,000 barrels daily.

* Commission on Contraband 'Paralyzed'

92P40007A Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 18 Sep 91 p 2-1

[Text] According to sources close to the business community, the high-level commission appointed to combat contraband is paralyzed due to a lack of resources and disagreements within the private sector.

Formed by the president of the republic, the commission is composed of representatives of the Ministries of Finance, Health and Social Assistance, Public Works, Agriculture and Breeding, and of the Superintendence for the Protection of the Consumer, as well as representatives from all the organizations affected by contraband, in both the industrial and commercial sectors.

The commission is supposed to meet every Tuesday at the Finance Ministry, but serious confrontations already have started to arise among business, industry, and even the public sector.

First of all, it has been discovered that a large percentage of the contraband entering the country is arriving through customs and not via the so-called "caminos verdes" [uncontrolled border areas]. This discovery has prompted a serious investigation into the way in which these products, which include food, dried goods, and all sorts of medicines, are allowed to enter.

It was revealed that in these meetings the Finance Ministry requested a list of the principal importers in order to conduct an investigation into the irregular handling of merchandise in customs, but the commercial sector stopped attending the meetings, without submitting the required information.

The President of the Venezuelan Council of Industry, Rafael Alfonzo, took the most belligerent position. He accused the executive branch of negligence for not recognizing the proliferation of contraband.

Alfonzo presented a list of commercial shops that openly sell contraband. Nevertheless, the National Guard indicated that many of these merchants refuse to sign the authorities' instructions and immediately proceed to move the contraband to other areas in the country's interior.

According to the National Guard, there are many legal loopholes, which hinder the seizure of merchandise without the authorization of a court. Going to court is a slow process that allows offenders to hide evidence or move it to safe places.

Unfortunately for industry, the executive branch is not in a position to confront this crime directly, because it has very few people to combat smugglers. Only three inspectors from the Finance Ministry, three from the National Guard, and three representatives from the Ministry of Health and Social Assistance are available to the commission.

The lack of steps taken by the business sector toward solving the problem also has been questioned, including its recent absence from the aforementioned presidential commission.

Due to the combination of obstacles facing the commission, it has been limited to a few inspections in the metropolitan area without much action in the interior of the country, particularly in the zones with the most movement of contraband, such as Margarita and the states that border Colombia, i.e., Zulia and Tachira.

The growth in contraband has increased in proportion to the rise in domestic prices over the last few years, profoundly affecting national industry.

Nevertheless, the government's concern is not limited exclusively to the economic damage that it can cause businesses. Foods such as cheese and tuna also have started to proliferate from Peru and Ecuador, where there are epidemics of cholera. In the case of medicines, peddlers have been detected selling medicines without a health permit and under conditions that are not safe for their consumption. This practice represents a potential danger for the poorer elements of the population which, because they are overburdened by the high prices of medicines and food, prefer to resort to contraband instead of buying national products.

Guyana

Voting List Controversy May Postpone Election

FL0710205491 Bridgetown CANA in English 1839 GMT 7 Oct 91

[By Rickey Singh]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, Oct 7, CANA—A no-confidence motion against the chief elections officer, and charges of "a seriously flawed" preliminary voters list are the latest developments in a spate of controversies over arrangements for Guyana's forthcoming general election.

Elections Commission chairman, Rudy Collins, has confirmed that a majority no-confidence vote has been taken by the Commission against commissioner of registration and chief elections officer, Ronald Jacobs. Collins, a former Guyana diplomat seconded from the Caribbean Community (Caricom) secretariat in Georgetown, also told CANA in a telephone interview that "there are serious problems over the accuracy of the preliminary voters list."

Against the background of last week's no-confidence motion against Jacobs—whose removal from office has been a constant demand of opposition parties questioning his impartiality—Collins has arranged for special meetings with the governing and opposition parties. On Monday, he was scheduled to meet representatives of the ruling People's National Congress (PNC). On Tuesday, he is scheduled to meet representatives of the Patriotic Coalition for Democracy (PCD), a grouping of opposition parties.

The findings of a private computer expert have established that on the basis of a preliminary list of approximately 316,000 voters, disenfranchisement could be as high as 30-35 percent. With the cooperation of the contesting political parties, Collins said at least 85-90 percent of the voters list was "correctable" within the time frame for revision of the voters register for elections to take place before year end. He, however, said Jacobs' refusal to cooperate with the Commission was making its work "extremely difficult."

On the seven-member Commission, headed by Collins, who has a casting vote, the governing PNC has three representatives, and the PCD a similar number. Lawyer Miles Fitzpatrick, one of the PCD representatives on the Commission, has already informed Collins that he would no longer be attending meetings of the Commission as long as Jacobs remained in office.

Collins said prior to the no-confidence vote, which he supported, he had proposed a merging of functions of the National Registration Centre and the Elections Commission, and that Jacobs be reassigned to him as technical adviser. However, Jacobs refused, fortified in the knowledge, as was explained, that he had the 'backing' of the PNC government. President Desmond Hoyte told the press last week he felt it would be "a mistake" to remove Jacobs at this stage from his dual post.

The Commission has mandated Collins to replace Jacobs with one of four nominees suggested to him from names provided by the private sector. Collins said he was now ready to inform all of the political parties that instead of waiting to have Jacobs replaced and to obtain the required cooperation from the national registration centre, he would seek their cooperation in "correcting" the list through a mechanism being devised by the Commission itself.

"I am firmly committed to free and fair elections," declared Collins, "and the political parties have a good opportunity to cooperate directly with a communications command centre being set up by the Commission in ensuring that as many eligible voters as possible are on the final register for the forthcoming elections."

Collins said he was aware of reports that neither the Elections Advisory Bureau—established by non-government and private sector elements—nor the Carter Centre, which has opened an office in Georgetown, has been provided with a copy of the preliminary voters list. He said he would make efforts to ensure both organisations received copies of the list.

The preliminary voters list has to be revised by October 26, with the possibility of a short extension of this period if necessary.

Both members of the Elections Commission, as well as representatives of opposition parties, have hinted at the possibility of a further postponement of the elections unless there is "a reasonably credible voters list."

In a paid advertisement urging public cooperation in revision of the voters list, Collins said: "The Guyana public is here requested to note that the Elections Commission is aware that a number of misguided attempts have been made to weaken the credibility of the registration exercise and frustrate the elections process by, for example, double and multiple registration and by attempts to obtain more than one identification card (id).

He deplored such practices "as fraudulent manipulation of the voters' list," and assured that measures would be put in place to "frustrate such attempts."

Constitutional Crisis Possible

FL0410205391 Bridgetown CANA in English 2028 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Oct 4, CANA—The leader of Guyana's opposition Democratic Labour Party (DLM) has vowed not to support a proposal for an election period caretaker government floated by another opposition group, the Working People's Alliance (WPA). The WPA had made the proposal at a meeting with president Desmond Hoyte.

"The DLM will never form a government of any kind with the ruling People's National Congress. We, unlike some other parties, do not want power through the back door," party leader Paul Tennassee told CANA.

The WPA said that the president expressed interest in opposition parties' position on its caretaker proposal, linked to what the WPA alleged could be a constitutional

crisis if opposition parties reject a controversial voters list for elections due by year end, and for which Parliament has been dissolved.

DLM's Tennassee said the idea was "crazy" and unnecessary, adding: "I don't believe that Hoyte will support it. Hoyte will not want to dissolve the PNC."

An executive member of the major opposition People's Progressive Party (PPP), which with the WPA, DLM, and three other small opposition parties, are members of a so-called Patriotic Coalition for Democracy (PCD), had earlier told CANA there was no mood for a caretaker government now. Tennassee said his party may give up membership of the PCD "if there are members there willing to form a government with the PNC."

On the question of the preliminary voters list now posted for scrutiny and claims and objections, Tennassee said his party's national executive council is to meet later this month, and would likely reject the list which the DLM and other opposition parties claim is substantially inaccurate.

Some opposition party officials have said the parties could demand a new list through house to house registration, raising the prospect of a postponement of elections. Elections Commission Chairman Rudy Collins and President Hoyte have warned that with Parliament dissolved and elections required to be held by the end of December, a postponement of elections would present a constitutional crisis.

UN Envoy on Election, U.S.-Cuba Relations

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[Text] United Nations, Oct 8, CANA—With Guyana moving towards general elections before the end of the year, a government representative has assured the United Nations that the ballot would be free, fair, and "beyond credible challenge."

Dr. Cedric Grant, the special adviser on foreign affairs to President Desmond Hoyte, told The General Assembly that fair elections were "central" to the government's programme of structural adjustment now underway in his country.

"We are unequivocally committed to the consolidation of a democratic order and to the full development of the human potential," he said while delivering his country's annual foreign policy statement to the world body.

Dr. Grant said the efforts to restructure the country was based on the belief that Guyana's stability depended crucially on the maintenance and continued enlargement of conditions of freedom in every sphere of life.

"This belief has found expression in a series of reforms that would place elections, which will be held before the end of this year, and other aspects of the democratic process, beyond credible challenge," he said. Grant said other areas of structural adjustment were being "successfully implemented in Guyana with the cooperation of the international institutions" and the assistance of "friendly states constituting a support group."

Turning to other issues, Grant praised the Bush administration's free trade-oriented Enterprise for the Americas Intitiative, describing it as a "bold and imaginative scheme." Grant urged the United States and Cuba to take steps to improve their relations, soured since the 1959 revolution.

"The frigidity of the cold war lingers on in the anomalous hostility between the United States and Cuba," he said. "To truly guarantee world peace, it is imperative that detente be generalised. It is now time to bury antagonisms which are the relics of another era. As friends of both the United States and Cuba, Guyana urges these two states to come together in a new spirit of friendship and cooperation, to bring full harmony to international relations."